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An original dramatic version of
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"The Costumes would do credit to any Theatre."

THE TIMES, Feb. 6:—

"An atmosphere of Eastern splendour."

THE STANDARD, Feb. 6:—

"Mr. Lonsdale was all that a villain should be in his barbaric and picturesque Costume of an Indian warrior."

THE DAILY MAIL, Feb. 6:—

"The Costumes were gorgeous."

THE DAILY CHRONICLE, Feb. 6:—

"The audience adored Miss Dora Barton in her 'Brahmin priestess' dress, with the flower in her hair. One thing was charming about it all, and that was the English Costumes of the 'fifties—the spreading flounces and white stockings, and officers' peaked caps, with the curtains behind."

FINANCIAL NEWS, Feb. 6:—

"A feast of Orientalism with Victoria Costumes and Uniforms in quaint and interesting contrast."

THE GLOBE, Feb. 6:—

"Sufficiently gorgeous Costumes."

PALL MALL GAZETTE, Feb. 6:—

"Miss Dora Barton looked very picturesque as a Brahmin priestess, and Mr. Henry Lonsdale equally picturesque in the guise of a rebel Native Officer."

THE REFEREE, Feb. 9:—

"Mounted with great picturesqueness."

THE NEWS OF THE WORLD, Feb. 9:—

"A succession of pictorial scenes that of themselves are worth going to the Princes to see. The English Costumes of the 'fifties are a joy, whether by way of contrast to the Oriental dress or as a thing apart."

LLOYD'S WEEKLY NEWS, Feb. 9:—

"The rainbow splendours of the Costumes well-nigh take one's breath away."

THE ERA, Feb. 8:—

"The play has been dressed by John Hyman, who has supplied uniforms representative of the period which are quite a triumph of the costumier's art. The Hindoo dresses are rich and gorgeous, and add in an inestimable degree to the effect of the production."

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Moll Carrington, "The White Girl Slave."
Feb. 17, Theatre Royal, Stratford, E.

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"Hindle Wakes" Co.
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Vide "Rugby Observer":—The drama retained all its fascinating influence. For this, no doubt, much is attributable to the excellence of the leading character, Pete, played by Mr. C. A., and no better criticism can be bestowed upon his performance than to say that he has given the production a magnificent send off for its protracted tour.—Feb. 7, 1913.
"Rugby Advertiser":—Mr. C. A. is a young actor who infuses much character into the part immortalised by Wilson Barrett, being the life and soul of the piece.—Feb. 7, 1913.

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Peter Everest, "Improper Peter."
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TAIBACH PICTURE PALACE.—P., W. Davies and Co.; M., Mr. W. Davies.—This week: Capita, in human marionette speciality; Katie More, comedienne; and pictures.

ABERDEEN.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—P., The Robert Arthur Theatres Co., Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; A. M., Mr. H. Adair Nelson; Mus. D., Mr. A. W. Loseby.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Hardy presents "Proud Maisie." The company includes: Mr. Rohan Clensy, Mr. J. J. Bartlett, Mr. Henry Le Grand, Mr. Vernon Steel, Mr. Frank Esmond, Mr. Wilfrid Manners, Mr. W. Garrett Hollick, Mr. Frederick Morland, Miss Ethel Tuson, and Miss Laura Cowie. T. M., Mr. George Robinson. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.15. Next week: "Princess Caprice."

TIVOLI.—P., The Tivoli (Aberdeen), Ltd.; M. D. and Licensee, Mr. Walter Gilbert.—This week (twice nightly): George Carney presents "The Fool of the Force"; Dan Booker, in chorus songs; Hill and Martini, comedy pantomimists; Hyde and Cody Trio, in "Jack o' Both Sides"; the Three Qualities; the Falcons, comedians; Roma and Romani, musicians; pictures.

PALACE.—L., The Tivoli (Aberdeen), Ltd.; A. M., Mr. F. Lawson Clark.—This week (twice nightly): Dan Clark and Tom Mostol, acrobatic comedians; Bert Barnes, singer and dancer; the Nicholls, comedy trick cyclists; pictures.

ABERTILLERY.

NEW METROPOLE THEATRE.—P., Messrs. C. J. Seaborn and Bob Evans; Mus. D., Mr. F. Drake.—This week: Mr. Chas. F. Wright's company in "The Kelly Gang." The cast includes: Percy Coningsby, Fred Soames, A. E. Smith, Ernest Roberts, Walter De Vere, V. O. Stevenson, William Chantry, Herbert Lemley, Fred Summers, Jock Elliott, Arthur Fotrell, S. L. Webster, and the Misses A. O. Lavelle, Gladys Mason, Maisie Sutter, May McAllister, and Lilian Swaleon.

PAVILION.—P., Messrs. A. Tilney and Sons; M., Mr. E. Pryce.—This week (twice nightly): Consul, in his human acts; Zena Clare, descriptive vocalist; Stellios and Lindsay and Harte; and pictures.

ACCRINGTON.

GRAND THEATRE.—P., Mr. William Wilson; R. M., Mr. Fred. W. Green.—This week: Messrs. Montgomery and Jazon's pantomime, "Robinson Crusoe." The company includes: Misses Mav Poulton, Florrie Delamere, Lizzie Pearce, Kitty Pearce, Messrs. Mark Stuart, Will Harris, Ted Young, the Brothers Adam and Bert Lyon. Matinée, Saturday at 2.30.

NEW HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Fred Willmot; R. M., Mr. J. Windsor Stevenson.—This week: Amasis, Egyptian magician; Lucy Lind, comedienne; Derby and Oakes, comedians and dancers; Kail Stern, in a song scena; Talbot and Clare, comedy duo; Bombardier Morris, singer; Ryan and Hall, comedians; and pictures.

EMPIRE PALACE.—P., Mr. William Wilson; M., Mr. Harold Wilson.—This week, Mr. George Thornton's orchestra, and pictures.

QUEEN'S HALL.—M., Mr. Havelock Bowker.—This week: Lillian Harvey, comedienne, and pictures.

ALDERSHOT.

ROYAL.—L. and M., Mr. Clarence Sounes; G. M., Mr. Jack Gladwin; A. M., Mr. Percy Barrow.—This week: Mr. Philip Michael Faraday's company in "The Chocolate Soldier." The cast includes: Misses Pearl Ladd, Courtis Cheal, Mabel Crouch, Messrs. Harry Arnold, Leo Sheffield, James Davis, and Lawrence Howard.

HIPPODROME.—P. & M., Mr. Clarence Sounes; G. M., Mr. Jack Gladwin; A. M., Mr. Cyril Royce.—This week: The Seven Bramusas, musicians, introducing a brass band extravaganza, "Music Afloat"; Scener's Russian dancers and singers; Astley's American circus, including a riding machine; the Bilfords, in cycling act; Anna Hana, entertainer; Gladys and Alber, singers and comedians; Lily Dance, comedienne; and Chas. Dent, character comedian.

DENTON EMPIRE.—P. & M., Mr. A. Ward F.R.G.S.; M. D., Mr. W. E. Marsden.—This week (once nightly, and matinée Saturday): Arthur Bridge, blind vocalist; and pictures.

ARBROATH.

PALACE THEATRE.—L. and G. M., Mr. Arthur Dean; Asst. M., Mr. Alec Melvin. This week: Kitty Stuart and Players in musical mélange, introducing T. Jackellis, double cornet soloist; Ruby Redd, comedian and dancer; Will Leslie, impressionist; and pictures.

PAVILION.—M., Mr. B. M. Fox.—This week: Wilbert-Lealand Trio, flying sailors; Hal Great, the London waif; Ascot, juggler; Bobbie Griene, ventriloquist; Casselli, humorist; the Two Nicolos, illusionists.

OLYMPIA.—M., Mr. Graham Brown.—This week: The Araluz, comedy acrobats; Ben Lomond, comedian; the Sages (Will and Jenny), vaudeville duo; and pictures.

ASHINGTON.

MINERS' THEATRE.—P., Messrs. Thompson and Metcalfe.—This week (twice nightly): J. Newton Cowling's company in "A Collier's Lass." The company includes: Mr. Harry Stainbury, Mr. Stanley Radcliffe, Mr. Kenneth Jackson, Mr. William Melrose, Mr. Ben Carr, Mr. Bert Johnson, Mr. John Locke, Mr. Easterbrook, Mr. George Lorreno, Miss Ivy Clowser, Miss Bella Moody, Miss Adele Liddon, Miss Annie Graham, and Miss Elsie Shelton. T. M., Mr. Stanley Radcliffe.

PAVILION VARIETY THEATRE.—P., Hirst Pavilion Co.; R. M., Mr. Frank Percival.—This week (twice nightly, and Saturday matinée): On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, the Whitt Trio, comedy acrobats; Owen King, vocalist; Evelyn Stoll, entertainer; Frankie Franks, comedian; Gertie East, comedienne; Muratti Brothers, novelty act; and pictures.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner & M., Mr. Chas. Revill; A. M., Mr. Chas. Revill jun.; Mus. D., Mr. W. Halton.—This week (twice nightly): Geo. N. Ballanger presents "The Round-Up." T. M., Mr. George E. Carleton. The company includes: G. Kickgate, H. Stanley, W. Heaton, F. Clough, B. Elmsall, Edgar Neville, Lewis Block, F. B. Kelly, Mercia Russell, Edith Giddens, Nora Kingsley, Rita Tomkins, Ray Raymond, Jas. Willoughby, Charles Levey, Alfred Grenville, Frank Harrison, Alfred Lafolle, Frank Holyoake, G. Halstein, A. Herdsfield, W. S. Ford, S. Morris, Alfred Lovell, T. Leslie, H. W. Hall. Next week: "The Bondman."

EMPIRE HIPPODROME. — P., Messrs. William Henry Broadhead and Son; R. A. M., Mr. John Boyle; Mus. D., Mr. Fred Heck.—This week (twice nightly): John Tiller's pantomime, "Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves." The company includes: Freddy French, Nelly Rodney, Jessie Gerrard, E. J. Barker, Willy Amstel, Taggart Craughan, Edith Jeffries, Messrs. Truro and Breece, Lulu Street, Clara Marr, Nora Claire, Kitty A. Edwards, Lulu Binns, Jessie McLeod, Annie Garnett, Olga Cuthbert, Elsie Smith. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.

PAVILION PICTURES.—P., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; A. M., Mr. A. Downes; Mus. D. Mr. Fred Coleman.—This week: Three Bracmars, in vocal comedy scena; Athelda, athlete; and pictures. Matinées, Monday, Tuesday, and Saturday, at 2.30. Two "shows" nightly, at 6.40 and 9.

ATTERCLIFFE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—M. D., Mr. Frank Macnaghten; M., Mr. Wilfrid Bryan.—This week (twice nightly): Spadoni Sisters, duettists and speciality dancers; Mr. Doc Thomas, child mimic and ventriloquist; and pictures. Children's matinée, Saturday, 2.30.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—L., Mr. Matt Raymond; R. M., Mr. Edward King; Mus. D., Mr. Rowland Allen.—This week (twice nightly): Frank and Beryl Harmer, in vocal and comedy scena; Mr. Bert Danson, the funny fellow; Miss Lilian and "Itt," comedy act; Henderson and Sheldon, banjoists; Scarlet Band; and pictures. Children's matinée, Saturday, 2.30.

BARNSLEY.

EMPIRE.—P., The Empire Palace Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Will Smithson; A. M., Mr. Tom Carrick.—This week: "The Fatal Wedding."

PUBLIC HALL.—P., The Mayor and Burgesses of the Borough of Barnsley; L., The Royal York Picture Co.; M., Mr. Geo. Johnson.—This week: Six Boston Girls, in dancing scena.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.

ROYALTY.—L. & M., Mr. Hugh Robertson; R. M., Mr. G. Stone.—This week (once nightly, and matinée, Saturday, 2.30): Mr. Louis Meyer presents "The Glad Eye." The company includes: Sam Wilkinson, Frederick Meads, F. Clive Ross, Tom Tindall, Carl W. Lindsey, Reginald Maurice, Frank Warwick Ward, Maurice Winter, Ernest Gray, Esther Whitehouse, Rhoda Beresford, Laurie Flockton, Ethel Percival. T. M., Mr. F. Clive Ross. Next week: "The Chocolate Soldier."

TIVOLI.—L. & M., Signor Pepi; R. M., Mr. Emilius Hill; Mus. D., Mr. T. H. Hulley.—This week (twice nightly): Four Royal Scots, in musical act; Reg. Wentworth, comedian; the Johnstons, jugglers; Hillier and Haynes; Dolan and Darty, comedy acrobats; Woodhouse and Wells, comedians and dancers; Queenie West, vocalist; Magini and his violin.

BARRY DOCK.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Tours, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Arthur Carlton; M., Mr. T. E. Maddox.—This week: The Moody-Manners Opera Company, Limited, on Monday, "Faust"; Tuesday, "Elijah"; Wednesday, "The Bohemian Girl"; Thursday, "Carmen"; Friday, "Lohengrin"; Saturday, "Maritana"; Saturday matinée, "Elijah." Company includes: Misses Zelie De Lussan, Raymonde Amy, Florence Morden, Olive Westwood, Bessie Weir, Lily Moody, Messrs. Wilson Pembroke, Albert Bowyer, Aubrey Standing, Graham Marr, Flintoff Moore, William Anderson, and Harry Brindle. C., Herr Richard Eckhold.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—P., Mr. Leon Vint; G. M., Mr. Arthur Brogden; R. M., Mr. H. Samson.—This week: Land and Cross; Leo Tell; Vagabond West; and pictures.

BATH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—A. M., Mr. Lewis A. Long; Mus. D., Mr. G. Alexander.—This week (for three nights and Wednesday matinée): Mr. Forbes Robertson presents, on Monday "Hamlet," on Tuesday "Mice and Men." The company includes: Mr. Walter Ringham, Mr. J. Forbes Robertson, Mr. S. A. Cookson, Mr. H. Athol Forde, Mr. Alex. Scott-Gatty, Mr. Percy Rhodes, Mr. Grendon Bentley, Mr. Montague Rutherford, Mr. Eric Ross, Mr. George Hayes, Mr. Robert Atkins, Mr. Richard Andean, Mr. E. Adeney, Mr. S. T. Pearce, Miss Adeline Bourne, Miss Olive Richardson, Miss Gertrude Elliott.

PALACE THEATRE.—L., Mr. W. S. Pearce; M., Mr. Leslie Fairfax.—This week (twice nightly): Nora Delaney; Will H. Fox, in musical monologue; Donald McDougal, the lively Scot; Miss Violet Romaine, vocalist; J. C. Hinkins, comedian; Chas. Goodman, comedian; Jack Morrissey, in rope manipulation, &c.; and pictures.

BATLEY.

HIPPODROME.—L. and M., Mr. Charles Draycott.—This week (twice nightly): The Rappo Trio, equilibrists; Jean Brodie, comedienne and dancer; Gladys Hooley, violinist; Tom Burton, comedian; the Imries, comedy couple; pictures. Children's matinée, Saturday, at 2.30.

BELFAST.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—M. D., Mr. Fred W. Warden; A. M., Mr. James M. McCann.—Messrs. H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh's company opened here on Monday in the American play, "The Barrier," which met with a capital reception. In the rôle of Necie, Miss Florence Dulhunty gained a veritable triumph with the excellence of her impersonation, her acting throughout being remarkably clever. Mr. Stanley Bedwell furnished a manly and convincing impersonation of John Gale; and the iniquities of Dan Stark (otherwise Bennett) were luridly portrayed by Mr. Richard Hicks. In the difficult rôle of Alluma, Miss Florence Tresillian appeared to the utmost advantage, her acting being quite irreproachable. Mr. Louis Hector was admirably cast as Captain Burrell; and the same may be said of Mr. Chas. Barrett, who appeared as Napoleon Doret. Other rôles were efficiently sustained by Messrs. Arthur Leigh, C. C. Grattan, Harry Morgan, and Arles Conway. Next week: "Our Miss Gibbs."

THEATRE ROYAL. — P., Wardens, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Fred W. Warden. — The attraction here is the exciting four-act drama, "Through Death Valley; or, The Mormon Peril." In the rôle of Jim Myddleton Mr. P. Barry Lewers acquitted himself with high distinction; and a really good impersonation of Noah Catchpole, the Mormon Elder, was furnished by Mr. Arthur S. Pitt. Mr. W. H. Pointon was all that could possibly be desired as Jack; and Miss Amy Hardcastle and Miss Winifred Haynes deserve every commendation for their finished treatment of the rôles of Bess and Florrie Hamilton. Miss Nelly V. Warden would, indeed, be difficult to excel as Kitty Cahill, while the rôle of her husband, Pat Cahill, could not be in better hands than those of Mr. Frank Bertram. Mr. Howard Smith was admirably cast as Dan Hamilton; and other rôles were adequately sustained by Miss Cecelie Fisher, and Messrs. Tom Owen, F. Wheatley, H. Jackson, Peter Gardner, etc. Next week: "His Child Wife."

ALEXANDRA THEATRE. — P., Alexandra Theatre Co., Ltd.; R. M. D., Mr. J. Leicester Jackson.—Mr. Charles Edward Clarkson's pantomime, "Little Red Riding Hood," has been a great draw here, and in this, the second and concluding week, its success is quite unbounded. As Robin Hood, Miss Claire Hastings has gained numerous admirers with her clever impersonation, her song, "Yesterday you called me sweetheart," being accorded an ovation. It would be impossible to conceive a more delightful principal girl than Miss Olive Young, her interpretation of Maid Marian being charming in the extreme. Especially meritorious are Miss Gale and Miss Murray as Phyllis and Will Scarlett, their singing and dancing affording a rare treat. Little Eva Petrie plays the rôle of Little Red Riding Hood with naturalness; and Mr. Fred C. Imbert was exceedingly droll as Dame Durden; and as Simple Simon Mr. Cecil H. Raymond was inimitable, his rendering of "Ring o' roses" gaining him deserved encores. Little Eva Petrie was winning and charming in the title-rôle, her dancing being the very poetry of motion. Messrs. Jackson and Marte were exceedingly funny as Much the Miller and Little the Tanner. Specialities were provided by Miss Claire Hastings and Little Joey; the Verona Sextette of lady dancers; Jackson and Marte, comedians; Mr. Cecil H. Raymond, comedian; Misses Gale and Murray, comedy artistes; Little Eva Petrie, comedienne, etc. Next week: "Dick Whittington."

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Fred Willmot; R. M., Mr. Henry T. Downs.—The top of the bill here is occupied by Fred Karno's company, who produce with gigantic success their screaming sketch, "Perkins, M.P.," in which Mr. Tom Nelson appears to the utmost advantage in the title-rôle. The famous Zigeuner Quartette appear in their classical musical ensemble, which is quite a feature of the bill; and Miss Ruby Roya, fresh from local pantomime triumphs at the Grand Opera House, is vigorously encored for her charming vocalism and smart dancing. Also appearing are Agnes Molteno and company in an old-time story; Ernesto, juggler and musical equilibrist; Herd and Gard, in comedy musical act; Ted E. Hopkins, Welsh comedian; Jack Walsh, comedian; and the Hipposcope.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—G. M., Mr. Frank Allen; A. M., Mr. A. C. Laidler.—Mr. Sammy Shields is the star here, and this versatile comedian gains a capital reception, especially for his football item; Hector and Loletto, described as Italian marvels, are unquestionably an acquisition to the bill; Miss Ethel Dunford's performance at the piano gains a favourable impression; and also billed are Edie Gorf, dainty comedienne and dancer; Wee Noel, coon delineator; Edna Dene, comedienne and dancer; Harry Preston, baritone; and the Bioscope.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—G. M., Mr. Will White.—The vaudeville element is sustained here by the Musical Boldens and Neville Delmar, vocalist. Pictures complete.

ST. GEORGE'S HALL.—G. M., Mr. Herbert Rogers.—This week: Chris Masters, the versatile actor-vocalist; and pictures.

NEW PRINCESS THEATRE.—G. M., Mr. Ferris Pounds.—This week: Miss Hetty Halpin, pedestal dancer; and pictures.

BILSTON.

HIPPODROME AND PICTURE HOUSE.—P., Mr. Edwin C. Jazon; R. M., Mr. E. Du Rocher.—This week: Mr. Geo. A. Street's drama, "The Cattle Thief." The company includes: Mr. Paul Neville, Mr. Wallie Bishop, Mr. Willie Moss, Mr. Edgar J. Coyne, Mr. Harrie Leslie, Miss Winnie Matthews, and Miss Dora Mason.

WOOD'S PICTURE PALACE.—M., Mr. Thomas R. Wood.—This week: Romany, the prairie girl; Miss Hettie Ryal, illustrated chorus singer; and pictures.

BIRKENHEAD.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—S. P. and M., Mr. W. W. Kelly; A. M., Mr. Herbert M. King; Mus. D., Mr. B. Srawley.—This week: (once nightly): Mr George Dance's company in "A Waltz Dream." Company includes: Messrs. J. Noel Leyland, Fred Lyne, George F. Burdett, John R. Val, Richard Keith, H. E. Neville, H. V. Diamond, Reginald P. Rutter, Misses Mabel Graham, Marion Broom, René Glynn, Barbara Lea, Daisy Yule, Nellie Palmer, Mabel St. Clair, Mavis Shaw, Kathleen Brett, Violet Hope, and Jessie Bevan. T. M., Mr. Victor Forsythe. Matinée, Thursday, 2.30. Next week: The Moody-Manners Opera company.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Walter De Frece; D. of Entertainments, Mr. E. Dottridge; R. M., Mr. Frank Weston; Mus. D., Mr. R. Tomlinson.—This week (twice nightly): Richard Nightingale and Walter Bishop's pantomime company in "Aladdin." Company comprises: Miss Edna Latonne and also Misses Gynnie Morgan, Bertha Pearl, Marie Pearl, T. Lawrence Ida Barker, Messrs. Walter Barrett, Walter Bishop, Paul Broadway, Gus Broadway, Arthur Broadway, Fred Broadway, and Misses Maud de Gray. Mona Wells, and Messrs. Gray and White. T. M., Mr. Walter Bishop.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—S. P. and M., Mr. D. J. Clarke; A. M., Mr. John Keating; Mus. D., Mr. Ernest Denney.—This week: Radford and Valentine, jugglers; Miss Maggie Benson, comedienne; Mr. and Miss Debreau, Japanese entertainers; Mr. J. W. Rickaby, comedian; Mr. Henry Helme, vocalist; Mr. Victor Travers, comedian; Miss Haidee De Rance; Johnson and Bert; and pictures.

BIRMINGHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Theatre Royal (Birmingham), Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Tom B. Davis; G. M., Mr. Philip Rodway; Asst. M., Mr F. Smith.—Once nightly: "Goody Two Shoes." This excellent pantomime is rapidly approaching the end of its run, for notice has been given that the fun will terminate on March 3. The genial general-manager, Mr. Philip Rodway, takes his benefit next Tuesday.

PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE.—P., Prince of Wales Theatre (Birmingham), Ltd.; M. D., Messrs. Milton Bode and John Hart; A. M., Mr. Henry Johnston.—Once nightly: "Twinkle Little Star." After a run of eight weeks, "Twinkle Little Star" will close down on Saturday, arrangements having been made for "The Sunshine Girl," with Miss Phyllis Dare in the leading part, to come in on Monday.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—P., Mr. Leon Salberg; A. M., Mr. W. T. Guest.—Once nightly: "Robinson Crusoe." There are no signs of any abatement in the interest being taken in this rollicking pantomime. The artistes are as keen as they were during the opening week, and the public continue to fill every part of the house at each performance.

BORDESLEY PALACE.—P., Messrs. Moss' Empires, Ltd.; L., Mr. T. Morton Powell; A. M., Mr. H. E. Cox.—Once nightly: Mr. Fred W. Carpenter's "Babes in the Wood" is engaging a successful week at this popular theatre. A delightful Robin Hood is Miss Marie Yorke, and Miss Dorothy Millar takes the part of Maid Marian with equal grace. Pretty songs and dances are given by Little Lorna Reyard and Miss Joan Gladys Clare, the two Babes, and excellent fun is provided by Messrs. Naughton and Gold, and George Grogie.

ASTON THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Mr. Charles Barnard; M., Mr. Lewis Chapman. — Twice nightly. In addition to a capital attraction at Bordesley Mr. Fred W. Carpenter has also an excellent production in "Aladdin," playing so successfully here this week. Miss Madge White is a popular Aladdin, and Miss Lillybelle is a charming Princess Badroulbadour. There is plenty of good comedy, some pretty dresses and scenery, and excellent dances are given by Zoe and Bunnie, and the Four Clifton Belles.

EMPIRE.—P., Messrs. Moss' Empires; A. M., Mr. W. H. Bebby; Asst. M., Mr. A. Williams.—Twice nightly: Miss Marie Kendall sings some delightfully humorous songs, and successfully introduces her English version of the Turkey Trot, in which she is assisted by Steve McCarthy; Gilday and Fox are two Hebrew comedians who are ever popular; Princess D'Aryaba contributes delightful dancing, assisted by Mlle. Mona and La Zafra; Steve McCarthy dances cleverly; the Romanows are remarkable contortionists; Ina Lorimer is a smart Scotch comedienne; Dion Wade is very amusing; and Ruhart is successful with his parodies.

GRAND THEATRE. — P., Messrs. Moss' Empires; A. M., Mr. Gordon E. Craig; Asst. M., Mr. H. F. Coward.—Twice nightly: A splendidly mounted comic operetta is seen in "Arms and the Girl," and the production is very amusing and entertaining; Harry Webber is a smart comedian and impressionist; Millie Doris, a local pantomime favourite, proves very popular; the Daunton-Shaw Troupe are clever trick cyclists; France and Stewart have an entertaining item in "The Little Puritan"; Ernest Scharff plays a variety of instruments in entertaining fashion; Julian Ross is a smart light comedian; and Trixie Marris a dainty comedienne.

HIPPODROME. — P., New Hippodrome (Birmingham), Ltd.; M., Mr. Ben de Freece; R. M., Mr. H. Hamilton.—Twice nightly: Albert Bruno is providing plenty of fun in "Perkins in Paris"; a most entertaining mystery is provided in P. T. Selbit's "Shadow People"; the Bell-Hattons give a good musical performance; Lottie Lennox sings her chorus songs admirably; Bertram Banks is a clever child mimic; Eily Beadell is a good contralto vocalist; Russell Carr is a smart ventriloquist; and Lawson and O'Dell have a smart speciality act.

GAIETY THEATRE.—L. & M., Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; A. M., Mr. Walter Bellian. — Twice nightly): Barnold's Dogs and Monkeys are clever performers, and give a very amusing entertainment; the Omega Trio are clever hand-balancers; Jack Sandon dances and ball punches cleverly; Wallus is a smart ventriloquist; Katie Butler is a character comedienne of more than ordinary ability; a bright musical comedietta is given by Lawley and East; Harry Maxam has some amusing songs; and the Four De Kolzas present an eastern mystery act.

ASTON HIPPODROME.—P., Aston Hippodrome, Ltd.; Director of Entertainments, Mr. S. T. Newsome; A. M., Mr. T. H. Middleton.—Twice nightly: Messrs. H. J. Corner and Leo Ward top a strong bill with their dramatic comedy sketch, "1,000 to 1 Against"; a musical and terpsichorean speciality of particular interst and charm is presented by Jan Phyule; the Eight Rag-time Darkies exploit the latest craze in entertaining manner; the Sisters Holman are two admirable dancers; Hartley and Vivienne are an entertaining comedy duo; Allen and White are smart comedy equilibrists; Archie Glen is an entertaining comedian; and George Caselli, a smart comedian and dancer.

NEW PALACE. — P., Messrs. Moss' Empires; A. M., Mr. Geo. Anthony. — Twice nightly: Pictures, and Gabrielle Hope in a clever musical act; Bobbie Hall and Beattie Moore, comedy duo; Jack Dalton, comedian.

BLACKBURN.

PALACE.—P. M. D., Mr. Frank Macnaghten; M., Mr. Arthur Burton; Mus. D., Mr. J. W. Sykes.—This week: Harry Burns' pantomime, "Dick Whittington." The company includes: Miss Helen Charles, Mr. Joe Pauly, Miss Rosie Pink, Miss Lilian Barnes, Miss N. Hindmarch, Mr. Michael Madden, Messrs. Acre and Morrie, Miss Gertie Grey, Miss Winnie Taylor, Miss Rita Raymond, Miss Nina Richmond, Mr. S. Lee, Mr. Louis Le Sine, and Mr. George Jackley.

STAR.—M. D., Messrs. Strong and Taylor.—This week: Selby and Myers; and pictures.

ALEXANDRA HALL.—L., the Dowry Picture Co.—This week: The Great Wangers Duo, musical blacksmiths; and pictures.

VICTORIA HALL.—P. & M., Mr. John Charnley.—This week: Bob Shillin, boy comedian; Harry Morris, one-man bugle band; and pictures.

CENTRAL HALL.—P. & M., Mr. John Bradley.—This week: Dan Gregory and Lydia; and pictures.

BLACKPOOL.

HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—G. M., Mr. Jno. R. Huddlestone.—This week: H. Hamilton Stewart presents "Sherlock Holmes." The company includes: Mr. Hamilton Stewart, Mr. W. Lawrence, Mr. Henry Lloyd, Mr. H. Littlejohn, Mr. Frank H. Moar, Mr. John Richter, Mr. Arnold Raper, Mr. Dan Miming, Mr. Richard Minton, Mr. Sydney Ernest, Mr. Hubert Pinder, Mr. S. Barnet, Mr. William Wilson, Mr. Raymond de Claise, Master Thomas Hill, Miss Edith Vogne, Miss Maisie Richardson, Miss A. Bruce Joy. T. M., Mr. Sidney Ernest. Matinée, Wednesday, 2.30. Next week: "With Edged Tools."

PALACE.—G. M., Mr. Geo. H. Harrop; A. M., Mr Fred Waller. — This week (once nightly): Mark Sheridan; Sisters Brenton, dancers; Lilian Matthews and Fred Haming, in "It"; Nellie Nora, instrumentalist; Will Douglas and company in comedy act; Bros. Hannaway, comedians and dancers; pictures. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.30.

BOLTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Bolton Theatre Co.; M. D., Mr. J. F. Elliston; A. M., Mr. John Moncur.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Fredk. Melville presents "The Monk and the Woman." The company includes: Mr. Ronald Adair, Mr. Jerrold Manville, Mr. Leonard Thackeray, Mr. Marus St. John, Mr. Harry Cullinford, Mr. Vernon Sansbury, Mr. Stanley Marsh, Mr. Frank Maurice, Mr. Robert Amble, Mr. Lewis Barton, Mr. Richard Raynor, Mr. Charles Olive, Mr. Lewin Mannering, Mr. Vincent Lorraine, Mr. Claude Furgerson, Mr. Henry Morland, Mr. Frank Barrington, Mr. Alfred Nightingale, Miss Mary Pemberton, Miss Margaret Tueskie, Miss Rita Rothwell, Miss Marie Stella, Miss Alice Mosley. T. M., Mr. Walter Pemberton. Matinée, Wednesday, at 2.30. Next week: "The Arcadians."

GRAND THEATRE.—P., Bolton Theatre Co..; M. D., Mr. J. F. Elliston; A. M., Mr. Alf. Booth.—This week (twice nightly): Miss Florrie Forde presents "Babes in the Wood." The company includes: Miss Florrie Forde, Arthur Stratton, Austin Lenton, Gilbert Payne, Victor and Louis, Frank Sumner, Miss Edie Wyatt, Miss Flora Carlton, Miss Lily Davis, Miss Rosa Wynford, Miss Agnes Lane, Miss Grace Moore, Little Vi Davis, Little Amicia Reynolds, Miss Stella Esdaile. T. M., Mr. John May. Matinées, Monday and Saturday, at 2.30.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Walter de Frece; R. M., Mr. Arthur R. Harrison.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Walter Howard presents "The Midnight Wedding." The company includes: Mr. Alfred Paumier, Mr. William J. Miller, Mr. Aidan Lovett, Mr. C. Quinton Fulford, Mr. W. Watkin Wynne, Mr. St. George Frere, Mr. Herbert Maule, Mr. Henry Nelson, Mr. W. Hilliard, Mr. Ronald Hodgson, Miss Jessie Burgwitz, Miss Ruth Wingrove, Miss Annie Saker. T. M., Mr. Forbes Harrison. Matinée, Monday, at 2.30.

BOOTLE.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—P., Pennington Estate Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Harry Pennington; Mus. D., Mr. Tom Shaw.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Alexander Marsh presents, Monday, "Richard III"; Tuesday, "Hamlet"; Wednesday matinée, "A Midsummer Night's Dream"; Wednesday evening, "The Bishop's Candlesticks"; and "Trilby"; Thursday, "A Tale of Two Cities"; Friday, "Oliver Twist"; Saturday, "The Three Musketeers." The company includes: Mr. Frank J. Fay, Mr. Edward Jones, Mr. Henry Oscar, Mr. Chowey Thorne, Mr. Henry Vickers, Mr. Edgar Greenwood, Mr. Henry Asquith, Mr. H. Wood, Mr. Hubert Elliott, Mr. Oswald Dobson, Miss Agnes Gagan, Miss May Grimshaw, Miss Carrie Baillie, Mr. Alexander Marsh, Mr. Wilson Gunning, Mr. Ian Fleming, Mr. J. William Mollison, Mr. Edwin Beverley, Miss Dora Mason, Miss Hilary Sturdy, Mr. George Asquith, Mr. W. Edward Stirling, Mr. Leonard Trollope, Mr. Edmund Tennant, Mr. A. G. Fenn, and Mr. James Grant. T. M., Mr. Albert Cavanah. Matinée, Wednesday, at 2.30. Next week "Babes in the Wood."

BOSCOMBE.

HIPPODROME.—P., South of England Hippodromes, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Walter de Frece; R. M., Mr. H. S. Charlton.—This week: "The Courtiers"; Leslie Harris; Kenneth Lyle Quartette; Phil and Nettie Peters; Clifford and May; Gene Crowe; and pictures.

BOURNEMOUTH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole P., Messrs. David Allen and Sons; Sole L., Executors of Fredk. Mouillot; R. M., Mr. Hubert Dunbar.—This week (once nightly, and matinées Wednesday and Saturday, at 2.45): Mr. Allan Aynesworth's company, in "Ready Money" (preceded by "Lady Jane"). The company includes: Mr. Mark Blow, Mr. Fred Tooze, Mr. L. Baskcomb Ward, Mr. Archie Selwyn, Mr. Cedric Percival, Mr. Cyril Ashford, Mr. Anbrey Mather, Mr. Wilfred Bailey, Mr. Douglas Payne, Mr. Sidney Lynn, Mr. William Holmes, Mr. Frank Hamilton, Mr. Jack Thomas, Miss Adelaide Tanner, Miss Helen Langton, Miss Dorothea St. Clair Smith, Miss Olivia Glynn. T. M., Mr. Arthur Bishop. Next week: "The Turning Point."

WINTER GARDENS.—G. M. and Mus. D., Mr. Dan Godfrey. — This week: Monday afternoon, "Pop." International programme; Monday evening, classical concert, with Mme. Ada Le Marchant; Tuesday afternoon, Captain De Villiers' wireless airship and classical concert; Tuesday evening, special programme; Wednesday afternoon, special recital; Wednesday evening, popular Tchaikowsky programme and special film, "The Merchant of Venice"; Thursday afternoon, symphony concert; Thursday evening, classical concert, with Mr. Lorne Waller; Friday afternoon, University extension lecture; Friday evening, classical concert, including Mr. Lorne Wallet; Saturday evening, National programme.

BRADFORD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Mr. John Hart; M., Mr. J. Richardson. — The annual pantomime matinée, in aid of the funds of the local Cinderella Club, was held here on Monday last, and the theatre was packed in every part. The performance was under the patronage of the Lord Mayor of the city, and the programme, which was of a prodigious length, was contributed to by the artistes of the Royal and Prince's Theatres, Bradford, and also by those from the Leeds Grand Theatre and the Leeds Theatre Royal, all of whom were cordially greeted for their generosity in lending a willing hand in the sacred cause of charity.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—P., Mr. Francis Laidler; G. M., Mr. N. Hepworth; A. M., Mr. F. Yearsley.—Mr. Laidler's most successful pantomime, "Cinderella," is in the last week of its run. Yesterday (Friday) evening the popular "Peter the Page" (Mr. Reg. Bolton) was to be accorded a well-earned and well-deserved complimentary benefit.

THE EMPIRE. — P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. Percival Craig.—The Six Brothers Luck are on a return visit here with their screamingly funny and capitally staged sketch, "H.M.S. Perhaps," which elicits roars of laughter; the Great Weiland once again is responsible for uproarious mirth with his comedy juggling; and the funny patter furnished by Friend and Downing, the chosen comedy couple, adds to the enjoyment of the evening; Gwennie Llewellyn's wonderful voice is heard to great advantage in "Lo! here the gentle lark," and "I hear you calling me"; Harry Fields is an excellent mimic; the Three Cape Girls contribute some strenuous acrobatic and big boot dancing; Billy Matchette is an amusing comedian; Wullie Walker's Scottish comedy is good; and the pictures are very entertaining.

THE PALACE.—L., Mr. Frank Macnaghten; M., Mr. Will A. Jackson.—Miss Mary Mayfren's company give again here this week their very fine performance of the intensely thrilling dramatic sketch, "Yellow Fang," the opium drug episode, which holds the audience interested throughout its representation. William Berol presents "The Writing Ball, Menetekel," a very clever and puzzling illusion; and Besoni provides a novelty in the shape of a ventriloquial entertainment without the customary doll; the Oakes Duo, in "Women's Rights," are very amusing;

"Do you now put on your best attire?"—*Julius Cæsar.*

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Headley Harman's parodies are funny; Lily Cole is entertaining with burlesque pictures on popular songs; and the fine bill also includes May, Ivy, and Daisy Gilbey, in a dancing and musical act; Conquelli, society mimic; the Robertsons, in character songs and dances; and the pictures.

BRIGHTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Brighton Theatre Royal, Ltd.; M., Mr. Lawson Lambert. — Mr. George Edwardes' company is doing excellent business here with "Gipsy Love," which is superbly staged. Mr. Peter A. Gawthorne as Jozsi and Miss Mary Ridley as Lady Babby distinguish themselves with excellent acting and singing. Miss Maggie Jarvis is a bright and winsome Ilona; Mr. Lionel Victor affords great amusement with his quaint representation of Dragotin; Mr. Norman Greene (Andor), Miss Connie St. Clair (Jolan), Mr. Louis Bradfield, jun. (Kajetan), and Miss Mabel Hirst (Zorika) also merit praise.

GRAND THEATRE.—L. & M. D., Mr. Ernest Gates; G. M., Mr. Ben Court.—Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Millane's company opened here on Monday with "A White Slave." Miss Mabel Rose achieved great success in the title-rôle; Mr. George Porteous gave an admirable enactment of Bernard Crawford; Miss V. St. Lawrence was highly effective as Inez Morella; Mr. Joseph Millane submitted a fine enactment of the hero; and the remaining characters were satisfactorily sustained.

HIPPODROME.—M., Mr. W. H. Boardman.—The following are here this week:—Miss Marie Studholme and company in the comedy sketch, "Her Ladyship"; Willy Pantzer and company in "The Limit"; Mlle. Golda, Australian soprano; the Four Sisters Ruby, in an acrobatic entertainment; Maud Rochez's "Monkey Music Hall"; Bert Williams, ventriloquist; and Doris Trevelyan, vocalist.

WEST PIER THEATRE.—S., Mr. A. W. Scholey.—"The Turning Point" is presented here by Mr. Rupert Lister and Miss Cecile Barclay's company. Mr. Rupert Lister achieves great success with his masterly impersonation of Lieut.-Colonel Felt; Miss Cecile Barclay merits high praise for her artistic embodiment of Monique Felt; Mr. George Barran is very effective as the priest, M. Jussey; Mr. Campbell Beaver, as Stetton, and Mr. Herbert Rea, as Bertrand de Mauret, give able enactments.

PALACE PIER THEATRE.—M., Mr. Gilbert Laye.—Messrs. Sydney Bransgrove and N. C. Slaughter's company is here with "Jane." Mr. Sebastian Smith is delightfully amusing as William Tipson; Miss Jenny Lynn is distinctly successful in the title-rôle; Mr. E. R. Holwy displays able acting as Charley Shackleton; Mr. Norman Carter's Mr. Kershaw is a finished character study; and Miss Ruby Hallier makes a diverting Mrs. Chadwick.

COURT.—P., Brighton Court Theatre, Ltd.; M. D., Mrs. M. Barrasford.—This week (twice nightly and Thursday matinée): Fred A. Marston in "The Voice of a Child"; Will Ludo, comedian; Hilda Mostyn, comedienne; and pictures.

BRISTOL.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—P. & M., The Representatives of the late Mr. J. M. Chute; R. M. & T., Mr. J. Ellis Miller; Mus. D., Mr. G. R. Chapman. — "Dick Whittington" is attracting full houses, the pantomime going well from start to finish. Miss Winifred Ward is very popular in the title-rôle; Miss Norah Guy is always dainty and pleasing as Alice; Mr. George French makes a capital Fitzwarren, his "Football" song, and Harry Lauder skit, "She's ma' Daisy," always meeting with approval; Mr. Tom Conway is really clever as Ermyntrude; Mr. W. Pringle makes an excellent Idle Jack, his "Cupid" and "Touch wood" songs being popular; Mr. Jack Hurst's Cat is quite a clever animal study; Miss Gwladys Anstey is pleasing as the Spirit of the Chimes; Mr. Arthur Argent is well placed as King Rat; Messrs. Fame and Fortune are amusing as the Captain and Mate; Mr. Sam Lockridge makes an imposing Emperor of Morocco; and Miss Beatrice Collier, who is an admirable dancer, makes a charming Princess Haidee. The Olympian Quartette score with their clever and graceful speciality dances, and the tastefully costumed ballet and extra ladies add considerably to the attraction of the pantomime.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Mrs. Emma Carpenter; G. M., Mr. Fred W. Carpenter; R. M., Mr. Henry C. Alty; Mus. D., Mr. Edwin Jacobs.—"Cinderella" continues to fill the house, and all the principals are very popular. Miss Anna Schuberth is sufficiently graceful and dignified as Prince Charming, and her songs are all appreciated; Miss Alice Digby acts prettily as Cinderella, and she also sings and dances well; Miss Nellie Merton works very hard and vivaciously as Dandini; Mr. George Rydon is a capital Pickles; Mr. Willie Reid and Mr. Victor Wakeman are well placed as the Baron and Baroness; and the De Vene Quartette do some really clever and graceful dances.

HIPPODROME. — M. D., Mr. Oswald Stoll; R. M., Mr. N. Preston-Hilary; A. M., Mr. F. S. Green; Mus. D., Mr. Howard W. Galpin.—Miss Violet Vanbrugh is appearing here as Lady Macbeth, in the sleep-walking scene from Sir Herbert Tree's production of "Macbeth." The scene is admirably staged, and as an exposition of anguish and intensity Miss Vanbrugh's Lady Macbeth could not be excelled. Miss Nora Lancaster and Mr. F. W. Grant give adequate support as the Gentlewoman and the Doctor. Joe Hayman and Mildred Franklyn amuse immensely with their Hebrew comedy skit, "Cohen's Mistake." Cruikshank, the fool of the family, does an excellent turn, his singing, 'cello playing and patter being all entertaining. Frank Maura does a clever act with his feet with a table, a barrel and balls. Daisy Taylor is a dainty and pleasing Scottish comedienne and dancer. Vandinoff paints some pretty pictures in oils at express speed. The Sisters Royce and Sid are attractive vocalists and simultaneous dancers. Lotto, Lilo and Otto present some capital trick cycling, including their "Football" act; and the amusing comedy, "His first skate," shown on the Bioscope, concludes an attractive entertainment.

EMPIRE.—R. M., Mr. Henry Lucas; Mus. D., Mr. Louis Gourvitch.—Houdini, the handcuff king, is here for the week, and presents his latest mystery, liberating himself after being locked in a water torture cell whilst standing on his head, his ankles clamped and locked above in the centre of the massive cover. Houdini also does some of his handcuff and straight-jacket acts, and offers £100 for a suggestion with possibilities of a new kind of cell or cage from which he can devise means to escape. Vera Moore is a pleasing ballad vocalist; Cromo and Hamilton amuse with a burlesque scena; Ida Revell is successful as a chorus and comedy comedienne; Siegel and Fields, comedians, are appreciated, as also is Harry Sims, comedian; the Flying Julians do some good comedy acts on the trampoline; and interesting pictures conclude.

BEDMINSTER HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Walter de Frece; R. M., Mr. A. J. Carter; Mus. D., Mr. Maitland de Lacy.—Messrs. Bransgrove and Slaughter's company successfully present a dramatic sketch, entitled "The Flag Station." Frou-Frou, the dog with the human brain, does some remarkably clever tricks. Dean and Dale, comedians, are appreciated; Billy French, light comedian and dancer, is successful; Fred Evans amuses with a burlesque dream of "Oliver Twist"; the Three Phydoras excel in their eccentric musical and grotesque dancing act; Edna Zora and company, with Carl Rosina at the piano, present a dainty and attractive song scena; Shields and Rogers, the cowboy and the Indian, do some smart feats with the lasso, etc.; and interesting pictures conclude.

PALACE.—M., Mr. Horace Livermore; Mus. D., Mr. Frederic Fey.—Here we have a clever production on the Bioscope of Shakespeare's "Merchant of Venice," the film measuring 2,000 feet. There are several other interesting pictures, and Hamilton's excursions and diorama of "A tour through the British Isles" is also included in the entertainment. The solo vocalists for the week are Miss Molly Lyons, soprano, and Mr. Walter Denver, tenor, both having good voices, and singing in artistic style.

BROUGHTON.

VICTORIA THEATRE.—Sole P., Messrs. J. P. Moore and Montague Beaudyn; M., Mr. Arthur Collingwood.—This week (twice nightly): "Under Two Flags." Mr. Beaudyn's company includes: Mr. J. Leon Courtville, Mr. Geo. Overs, Mr. Fred M. Hood, Mr. A. R. Hasper, Mr. Jack Darnley, Mr. Arthur Britton, Mr. A. A. Tomlin, Mr. Fred White, Mr. Chas. Carren, Mr. Albert Pringle, Mr. Cecil Renton, Miss Marion Keith, Miss Grace Power, Miss Phyllis Rae, Miss Cissie St. Elmo and Miss Irene Munro.

BURNLEY.

EMPIRE.—M. D., Mr. W. C. Horner.—This week (twice nightly): Johnson Clark, sportsman ventriloquist; Dacre and Lynton; Bros. Leo, comedians; Les Videos, cyclists; the Corona Gatty Trio, musicians; Daisy Griff, comedienne; Woodward and Page, in comedy act; the Paldrens, in jumping act; pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME.—P., Palace Theatre and Hippodrome (Burnley), Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Frank Macnaghten; M., Mr. J. Rintoul.—This week (twice nightly): Billy Williams; the Meymotts present "In the Future"; Four Kemptons; Jessie Broughton and Dennis Creedon; Masques, in song and posing scena; Gulliver, ventriloquist; Charles Torbay, comedian; Mascot, educated horse; pictures.

BURSLEM.

HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. Moore and Beaudyn; M., Mr. E. G. Lord.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Fred Gresham's repertory company in "My Sweetheart," "Leah," and "Charles Peace."

BURTON-ON-TRENT.

OPERA HOUSE.—P., Mr. H. G. Dudley Bennett; B. M., Mr. E. de Hague Body.—This week (once nightly): Mr. George Edwardes presents "The Count of Luxembourg." The company includes: Mr. Willie Hartill, Mr. Mark Lester, Mr. Edwin Oxlee, Mr. Dundas Walker, Mr. Lacy Mills, Mr. Ernest Norris, Mr. Norman Brown, Mr. A. Traile, Mr. Alec Johnstone, Mr. Ernest Wellesley, Mr. R. Graham, Mr. Nigel Barrie, Miss Vere Sinclair, Miss Lina Hicks, Miss Elsa Twemlow, Miss Marguerite Vernon, Miss Marguerite Edgley, Miss Irene Crammond, Miss Nancy Mortimer, Miss Eva Hertz, Miss Marjorie Gresham, Miss J. Rutter, Miss Mercy June, Miss Gertie Anderson, and Miss Mabel Twemlow. T. M., Mr. Trueman Towers. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.30. Next week: "The Prairie Outlaw."

BURY (Lancs.).

ROYAL.—P., Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Otto C. Culling; Asst. A. M., Mr. J. G. McPherson.—This week: Harry Russell's pantomime, "Cinderella." The cast includes: Miss Poppy Milton, Miss Ernest Ridgwell, Miss Topsy Johnson, Mr. Colin Bryce, Mr. Fred Young, Miss Jesse Jess, Miss Lily Leighton, Miss Ruby Leighton, Mr. Stanley Worden, Mr. Hazel Jeffries, Miss Lillian Errol, Miss Madge Allan, and Mr. Harry Russell. Speciality items by the Four Rainbow Girls, Sisters Leighton, the Leibigs, and Harry Russell.

HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. William Henry Broadhead and Son.—This week (twice nightly): Messrs. John F. Traynor and company present "The Devil's Elbow"; Elsie Claire, vocalist; the Romanys, in musical act; Tom Jersey and assistant, in shadowgraphy and magical act; F. F. St. Clair, singer; pictures.

CIRCUS OF VARIETIES.—P., Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Otto C. Culling.—This week: Mora and Lola, in musical act; Ernest Hargreaves, vocalist; and pictures.

BUXTON.

OPERA HOUSE.—P., The Buxton Gardens Co., Ltd.; M. and S., Mr. F. T. Boucher.—House closed for a week. Next week: "The Manxman."

HIPPODROME.—L. and M., Mr. Allan Milton.—This week: Vernon and Mars Trio, comedy gymnastic act; Rexart, juggler; Brizlee, entertainer; and pictures. Matinées, Wednesday and Saturday. Mus. D., Mr. William le Roy.

CAMBRIDGE.

NEW THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.—Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, matinée, 2.30: Miss Hilda Trevelyan and Mr. Edmund Gwenn's company of Welsh players, in "Little Miss Llewelyn." The company includes: Messrs. Sidney Evans, Arthur Edgar, Hugh Robinson, Harding Thomas, Edward Jones, Gareth Hughes, Owen Pryce, Jeffry Hopkins, and Edward Lloyd, and Misses Louie Williams, Eleanor Daniels, Rachel Jones, and Evelyn Evans. Thursday, Friday, Saturday, matinée, 2.30: Mr. P. M. Faraday's company, in "The Pink Lady."

EMPIRE.—P., Messrs. Hawkins and Frank; M., Mrs. Hawkins; Mus. D., Mr. Davis.—This week (twice nightly): Venturini, illusionist; May King, vocalist; Joe Cookson, ventriloquist; the Welfares, in "The Quakeress and the Dude"; the Koncertos, in "Twilight in the Rockies"; and pictures.

CANTERBURY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—D., Mr. William Holland.—This week (once nightly): Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. Mr. Frank Weathersby presents "The Witness for the Defence." The company includes: Mr. Roland Daniel, Mr. Alec Alves, Mr. George Delaforce, Mr. S. P. Goodyer-Kettley, Mr. Byron Douglas, Mr. Reginald C. Harvey, Miss Daisy Parkinson, Mr. Ernest Cardos, Miss Nellie Metcalf, Miss Elsie Roberts, Miss Dorrie Roberts. Friday and Saturday, "The Thief," preceded by "The Call of Duty." T. M., Mr. Roland Daniel.

CARDIFF.

NEW THEATRE.—L. & M., Mr. Robert Redford; Mus. D., Mr. Ambrose Mabbett.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Charles Frohman presents "Peter Pan." The company includes: Pauline Chase, Holman Clark, E. Spencer Geach, Jessie Winter, Gertrude Lang, Alfred Willmore, Reggie Sheffield, Edward Sillward, Jane Wren, Agnes Glynne, Marjorie Graham, Charles Thomas, Joan Carroll, Anna Langley, Sybil Hook, George Shelton, Charles Trevor, Charles Medwin, James Prior, William Luff, James English, John Kelt, S. Spencer, A. Stevenson, W. Manning, Humphrey Warden, Florence Wells, Lily McIntyre, Gladys Jesson, Maisie Yorke, Mair Vaughan, Pauline Prim, Mabel Thomas, Moya Nugent, S. Nagle and M. Rose, W. Child, Gordon Carr, B. Rose, D. Searle, V. Pierpoint, A. H. Kent, T. M., Mr. H. Val Kimm. Matinées, Wednesday and Saturday, 2.

THEATRE ROYAL.—R. M., Mr. Arthur Beaufort.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Fred Granville presents "The Babes in the Wood." The company includes: Mr. Harry Jones, Miss F. Latham, Miss M. Minster, Miss B. Savage, Miss M. Wallace, Miss Kitty Colman, Miss Ivy Arnold, Miss Marie Estelle, Mr. George Green, Mr. Matt Kilduff, Mr. Evan Davies, Bros. Shephard, Vera Elmore, Dulcie Elmore, Miss Lallah Davis, Miss Ida Dorrie, Miss Kitty Garden, Miss E. Burgess, Miss C. Brooks, Miss C. Hornby, Miss Gladys Cooper, Miss Lottie Garden. T. M., Mr. Evan Davies. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.15. Next week: "The Sins of the Rich" and "Sapho."

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. Herbert J. Taylor.—This week (twice nightly): George Lashwood; Fred Poplar, comedian; Burt Shepard, Vernon Troupe, xylophone experts; Tom Morton and Maggie Bowman; Nora Emerald, comedienne; Donaldson Bros.; Aldon and Loupe, barrel jumpers; pictures.

CARLISLE.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. Sidney Bacon; R. M., Mr. Harry Armstrong.—This week (once nightly, and matinée, Saturday, 2.30): Mr. Forbes Russell presents "The Prisoner of Zenda." The company includes: Fred D. Daviss, Arthur Gibbons, Lionel Yaldwyn, Edmund Blake, Charles Leighton, Harold Taylor, Gerald Alexander, Claud Allister, Jackson Winter, J. Vernon, Millicent Melrose, George Wyley, Reginald Ives, Philip Rolfe, Walter Brantley, Winifred Gamble, Kitty Crichton, and Dorothy Overend. Next week: "The Girl in the Train."

PALACE THEATRE.—P., Mr. Frank Macnaghten; M., Mr. J. D. Askew.—This week (twice nightly): Stoddard and Hynes, in comedy musical act; Jimmy Athlone presents art tableaux; Phil Bransby, character comedian; Jimmy Godden, comedian; Arthur Page, Lancashire comedian; C. H. Charlton and his mysteries; Johnny McElroy, in "Helping a Pal"; Three Lascelles, in musical comedy act; pictures.

CASTLEFORD.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Messrs. Charles Gadsby and Sons; B. M., Councillor Harry Masterman, J.P.—This week (once nightly): Mr. William Maclaren and Miss Lily C. Bandmann present "Claudian." The company includes: Mr. William Maclaren, Mr. Ulick Burke, Mr. Basil Mitchell, Mr. Douglas Earle, Mr. Weston Hubbard, Mr. Cecil Maynard, Messrs. Lovell and Boyce, Mr. Pat Branigan, Miss Dudley Herbert, Miss Pamela Hodson, Miss Ida Crofte, Miss Mona Crofte, Miss Rose Moore, Miss Amy Forbes, Miss Merwal Rosebrook; and Miss Lily C. Bandmann. T. M., Mr. Arthur McEwan.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—P., The Castleford Queen's Theatre Co., Ltd.; Mus. D., Messrs. Beanland and Emerson.—This week (once nightly): Lady Mansel and Juveniles; Billy Marsden, comedian, and his concertina; and pictures. Picture matinées, Monday and Saturday, at 3 p.m.

CHATHAM.

ROYAL.—P., Messrs. C. and L. B. Barnard; A. M., Mr. L. Barnard.—This week (once nightly, and Saturday matinée at 2.30): Mr. J. A. Campbell presents "The Queen Mother." The company includes: Mr. Richard Bosco, Mr. Herbert Mansfield, Mr. Frank Strickland, Mr. William Lenton, Mr. William Greene, Mr. Arthur Denton, Mr. Eric Morden, Mr. Douglas Tremayne, Mr. Wilton Reed, Mr. John Rimmer, Master Frank Beresford, Miss Ruth Zillwood, Miss Laurie Potter, Miss Lina Naseby, Miss Etter Arnold, and Miss Mary Fulton. B. M., Mr. Douglas Tremaine.

BARNARD'S.—This week (twice nightly): Fred Edwards, assisted by May Yates in comedy sketch, "Kleptomaniacs"; Donna Rita; Six White Boys, in dancing and singing act; Jimmy, canine wonder; Hughie Ogilvie, comedian; Winnie Gay, comedienne; the Four Maxims, jugglers, &c.; and pictures.

EMPIRE.—Joint M. D., Mr. Oswald Stoll and Alderman H. E Davis, J.P., C.C.; R. M., Mr. Lionel Melville.—This week (twice nightly): Chanti, the modern Proteus; Dusty Rhodes, comedian; Mrs. Graeme Goring and Co. in the Scottish sketch, "Head of the House"; the Four Vagabonds, comedians; Agnes Tina, the lady mimic; Charles Kasrac and Co. in "Buffet de Falle"; John Weil, the Continental Prestidigitateur.

CHELTENHAM.

OPERA HOUSE.—G. M., Mr. H. Oswald Redford.—This week: Mr. George Dance's company, in "The Quaker Girl," including: Mr. Hugh Weybrance, Mr. J. W. Hooper, Mr. William Ogle, Mr. Cyril Dane, Mr. Gerald Wynne, Mr. L. Verno, Mr. Arthur Hayter, Mr. Henry Dench, Mr. John T. McCullum, Miss Maud Denny, Miss Lily Alaine, Miss Elsie Wallace, Miss Olga Morra, Miss May Leslie, Miss Kathleen Haddon, Miss Madge Robertson, Miss Dolly Mercer, Miss Jessie Allen, Miss L. Anderson, Miss Gloria Egmont, and Miss Sybil Coulthurst. Next week: "Hindle Wakes."

POOLE'S PICTURE PALACE.—M., Mr. Shakspere Shenton.—This week: The Three Morleys, the Dalgarnos, and pictures.

THEATRE OF VARIETIES AND CINEMA DE LUXE.—This week: Hetty Belmont, speciality dancer; Mirth and Melody; and pictures.

CHESTERFIELD.

CORPORATION THEATRE.—P. & M., Corporation Theatre, Ltd.—This week (once nightly and twice Saturday): Mr. R. S. Beresford presents "The Cowboy's Redemption"; Chas. Ousley, coon vocalist; Dorothy Spree, character comedienne; Rizarelis and Recar Trio, acrobats; and pictures.

HIPPODROME.—P., Hippodrome (Chesterfield), Ltd.; G. M., Mr. F. R. Sargisson.—This week (twice nightly): Harry Ellison presents "The Babes in the Wood." The company includes: Miss Mabel Osborn, Miss Mora Hersee, the Four Minims, Miss Marie May, Miss Clarice Handel, Miss Susie, Miss Vio, Mr. Van Lyndon, Mr. Harry Elliston, August and September, Miss Kathleen Raymond, Miss M. Seymour, Miss Gwennie Boyce, Miss Elsie Mayse, Miss Phyllis Price, Miss M. Yates, Miss Nancy Dawn, Miss Pearl Lester, Miss Masie Hart, Miss Wilton, Miss Nellie Seymour, Miss Rosy May. Children's matinée, Saturday, 2.30.

CLYDEBANK.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Sole P., Mr. A. E. Pickard; R. M., Major Geo. Mitchell.—This week (twice nightly): Transfield's comedy dogs and monkeys; Dina Stoddart, comedienne and dancer; Geo. Bernard, actor-vocalist; Harry Platter, juggler; Sandy McNab; Fanning's Royal Court Marionettes; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.

COLCHESTER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. & M., Mr. F. Graham Macdona.—This week (once nightly): Mr. B. Iden Payne presents "Man and Superman." The cast includes: Claude Haviland, Wilfred Fletcher, Isabel Turner, Esme Percy, Carrie Haase, Minnie Webb, Emily Patterson, Sylvia Dawson, Arnold Reynor, Alfred Payne, Desmond Brannigan. Next week: "The Cattle Thief."

HIPPODROME.—P., Hippodrome, Colchester, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Walter de Frece; M. C., Turner Hallett.—This week (twice nightly): Messrs. Bransgrove and Slaughter present "Our Flat." The company includes: Mr. H. Bolton, Mr. Harold Maligny, Mr. Fred Knight, Mr. J. Detliv, Mr. J. Brighton, Mr. Harry Bell, Mr. Cecil Calvert, Miss Daisy Atherton, Miss Alice Calvert, Miss O'Connor, Miss Rita Sponti, Miss Marcia Rose Next week: "The Flag Lieutenant."

CONSETT.

NEW TOWN HALL.—This week (twice nightly): Otto Menotti; the Claxtons, entertainers; and pictures.

ROYAL PICTURE HOUSE.—This week (twice nightly): The Four Mackinnons, in musical mélange; Andie Burns, comedian; and pictures.

CORK.

OPERA HOUSE.—M., Mr. Frank J. Pitt.—This week (once nightly; matinées, Wednesday and Saturday, at 2).—The F. R. Benson Shakespearean company present: On Monday, "Othello"; on Tuesday, "Twelfth Night"; Wednesday (matinée), "Julius Cæsar"; Wednesday, "Merry Wives of Windsor"; Thursday, "If I Were King"; Friday, "Comedy of Errors" (preceded by "Comus"); Saturday (matinée), "As You Like It"; Saturday (evening), "Hamlet." The company includes: Charles Warburton, John Cairns, Duncan Yarrow, Andrew Leigh, Basil Osborne, Horace Braham, E. Pardoe Woodman, Basil Rathbone, Edmund Sulley, S. B. Bickmore, Frank Freeman, F. Woodcock Denman, Lillian Laurence, Brunhold Muller, Evelyn Vanderzee, Muriel Dawn, Peggy Talbot Daniel, Madge K. Yardley, Henry Herbert, and Gladys Vanderzee. T. M., Mr. W. H. Savery.

PALACE THEATRE. — M., Mr. Richd. M. Magrath.—This week: Alfred Wellesley and Co., in "Uncle's Courtship"; Lloyd Morgan, comedian; Katie Marsh, comedienne; Phil Kaufman, coon singer; Aimee Parkerson, vocalist; Folly Bask; and pictures.

COVENTRY.

OPERA HOUSE.—This week: Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company present "The Prairie Outlaw." The cast includes: Frank Seymour, Terry Davis, Edward Bikker, Herbert Sydney, Hyland T. O'Shea, George Scully, F. Wright, G. Star, J. Jones, F. Campion, and Misses Nellie Lorraine, Nellie Masterson, and Nina Blake Adams.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. S. T. Newsome; R. M., Mr. G. E. Wright.—This week: Nellie Wallace, Dorsch and Russell, the Sisters Geretti, Duncan and Godfrey, the Gothams, Kitty Prince, W. B. Raby, and Lewis' Mannikins.

CREWE.

NEW THEATRE.—L. & M., Mr. H. G. Dudley Bennett; R. M., Mr. L. F. Testot.—This week (once nightly): Messrs. Glenville and Osmond present "For Wife and Kingdom." The company includes: Mr. Percy H. Wood, Mr. Matthew H. Glenville, Mr. Charles H. Gallier, Mr. Cecil A. Melton, Mr. Fred Osmond, Mr. T. Varney, Mr. Robert Mann, Mr. Henry Smythe, Mr. D. Dunlop, Mr. Lewis Gordon, Mr. Harold Goodyear, Miss Lilian Malvern, Miss Alice Buckland, Miss Louise Millward, Miss Elaine Vanbrugh, Miss Margaret Hobart. T. M., Mr. Charles H. Gallier. Next week: "The Monk and the Woman."

CROYDON.

GRAND.—M. D., Messrs. Adams and Archer.—This week: Mr. Arthur Bourchier's company present "Find the Woman." Company includes: Mr. Frederick Victor, Mr. Oliver Crombie, Mr. Olaf Hytten, Mr. Ernest Cassel, Mr. Arthur Elwyn, Mr. Walter Goodwin, Mr. Lewis Clarke, Mr. James Carr, Mr. Fred Charles, Mr. Arthur Seymour, Mr. Matthew Forsyth, Miss Marion Lockey, Miss Sybil Clayton, and Miss Agnes Verity. T. M., Mr. Eric G. Merrie. Matinée, Wednesday, at 2.30. Next week: "Gipsy Love."

DARLINGTON.

ROYAL THEATRE.—L. & M., Mr. James Bell; A. M., Mr. P. P. Prosser. — This week (once nightly): Mr. Alban B. Limpus presents "Bella Donna." The company includes: E. W. Thomas, Dudley Stuart, W. J. Butler, Hugh Rene, H. Gumpert, Ernest Watts-Tye, Douglas Lewis, Alfred McMahon, Horace Broad, Frank Kidger, Agnes Knights, Flora Haydon, Georgina Wynter. T. M., Mr. Dudley Stuart. Matinée, Wednesday, at 2.30. Next week: Arthur Roberts and full company.

HIPPODROME.—L. & M., Signor Pepi; B. M., Mr. Sydney B. Stringer. — This week (twice nightly): Harry Tate presents Woody and Well in "The Perch Club"; Vera Wootton, comedienne; Harry Brancroft, actor and chorus singer; Pedro Pescador and his somersaulting dog; Bros. Obo, comedians; Emmie Ames, comedienne; Carbrey Boys, dancers; pictures.

DARWEN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Darwen Theatre Royal Co.; G. M., Mr. Thomas Baker.—This week (once nightly): Miss Edith St. Clare's pantomime, "Robinson Crusoe." Company includes: Misses St. Clare, Wynnie Darrel, Victoria Maitland, Millie Coles, Adele Prescott, Ruby Letton, Four Havana Girls, and Messrs. J. W. Hall, Mark Lupino, Mark Practice, Gus Walker, Arthur Cartwright, James Rich, and Hymar and Metford.

PUBLIC HALL.—L., Messrs. Riding, Hardcastle, and Rawlinson; M., Mr. J. D. Rawlinson.—This week (twice nightly): The McGregors, comedy and vocal entertainers; Little Babs Vilma; and pictures.

DERBY.

GRAND.—P. & M., Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; A. M., Mr. C. Denley; Asst. M., Mr. J. B. Torr.—This week: Mr. Percy Hutchison and company, in "Brewster's Millions." The company includes: Messrs. P. Hutchison, Harry Hampson, Ernest Deans, Gerald Fitzgerald, J. Gordon Blyth, and F. S. Thurstans, and Misses Elsie Stranack and Lilian Earle.

PALACE.—L. & M., Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; A. M., Mr. T. W. Moyes; Asst. M., Mr. A. J. Knight.—This week: Frank Hardie, Victoria Carlton, and company, in "Betrayed"; Gordon Stretton, artistic coon; Peakman and Walsh, jugglers; Harvey Brinton, at the piano; and pictures.

VICTORIA ELECTRIC THEATRE. — This week: Alpho, ventriloquist; Arthur Clifton, comedian; and pictures.

DEVONPORT.

HIPPODROME.—M., Mr. G. E. Prance; Asst. M., Mr. William Baldwin.—This week: Gipsy violinist; Spiegler and his quintet of vocalists and musicians; Harry M. Vernon's company in sketch, "Canada"; Bert Eden, comedian; Harry Thurston, comedian; Rose and Challoner, in "The Porter and the Singer"; the Delevines, in "The Wicked Witch's Wish"; Ryder Slone, comedian; and Willie Payne, character artiste.

DEWSBURY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Otto C. Culling; R. M., Mr. J. Herbert Asquith.—This week (twice nightly): The "Peggy" syndicate present "Peggy." The company includes: Mr. Ellis Holland, Mr. Charles Hanbury, Mr. J. K. Walton, Mr. Harry Hartley Mr. A. Victor Martin, Mr. Frank Merry, Mr. T. H. Tindall-Hogge, Mr. John Dornan, Master Nathan Alter, Mr. Gus Oxley, Miss Eva Macdonald, Miss Madge Lucas, Miss Rosemary Faire Miss Kitty Cressy, Miss Ella Wynne, Miss Lola Waffington, Miss Elsie Piddock, Miss Eva Wray Miss Aline Heron, Miss Marion Keeley, Miss E. Williams, Miss Vera St. Clair, Miss Marie House, and Miss Ethel Waldie. T. M., Mr. John Halpin. Next week: "Bunty Pulls the Strings."

EMPIRE.—P., Messrs. G. W. and G. E. Smith; A. M., Mr. E. J. Jackett; G. M., Mr. Claude Shayler.—This week (twice nightly): Messrs. Levy and Cardwell present "The Sleeping Beauty." The company includes: Miss May L. Murray, Miss Molly Rafferty, Mr. Will McGeoch, Miss Marie Lumberg, Mr. Stanley Annison, Mr. Jackson Collis, Mr. Teddy Worth, Miss Nellie Stuart, Miss Lily Parkinson, Miss May Lilian, Mr. Williams, Mr. Alf. E. Rick, Mr. Tom Cowley, Messrs. Hughes and Allen, Miss Kitty Rafferty, and Freddy Hackin. T. M., Mr. H. B. Levy. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.30.

HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. G. W. and G. E. Smith; G. M., Mr. Claude Shayler: Asst. M., Mr. E. Shepherd.—This week: Blanche Haddon, chorus vocalist; and pictures.

INDUSTRIAL HALL.—L., Andrews Pictures, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. A. Ramsden.—This week: F. Schofield, lecturer and vocalist; and pictures.

DONCASTER.

GRAND THEATRE.—L., The Palace Theatre (Doncaster), Ltd.; M., Mr. J. W. North; A. M., Mr. C. H. Bell; Mus. M., Mr. Charlton T. Waddington.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Tom H. Taylor presents "When London Sleeps." The company includes: Messrs. Alfred D. Adams, Herbert Morgan, Ernest C. Edwards, Sydney Arthur, Victor Mason, Charles Digby, John Belton, J. E. Abbott, Robert Barcham, Edwin Newburn, Alfred Ames, Sam T. Lea, Misses Winifred Maine, Alice Hellier, Little Madge Hope, Louie Heathfield, Cissie Cleveland, Christine Middleton, Bella Power, Florence Halton, and Florence Dalton. Next week: Messrs. Hart and Moreton's company in "The Arcadians."

PALACE.—P., The Palace Theatre (Doncaster), Ltd.; M., Mr. J. W. North; A. M., Mr. C. H. Bell; Mus. D., Mr. Felix Burns.—This week (twice nightly): Horace Hunter and company in "Under Suspicion"; Lillette and company present "The Mysterious Head"; Chas. Field and Miss Ritta Mansell, lightning painters and jugglers; the Dorinos, dancers; the Letines, comedy acrobats; Frank H. Fox, comedian; Miss Edna Lyall, the nightingale; and pictures.

DOVER.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. S. W. Winter; M., Mr. E. W. Holford; Mus. C., Mr. C. C. Hill.—This week (twice nightly): The Lyons Trio; Barrington, in "A Composer's Dream," assisted by Miss Isobel Dickens; the Nicoletos Trio, equilibrists; the Amio Trio, in military comedy act; Callen and Emery, in "The Bootblack and the Skivvy"; Gladys Warren, comedienne; Tom Pearson, mimic.

KING'S HALL.—M., Mr. H. R. Geddes.—This week (twice nightly): R. A. Roberts, in sketch, "Dick Turpin"; Miss Irma Lorraine, dancer, in "The Five Senses," assisted by Mlle. Marjah, danseuse, and Mlle. Leoni Berenzy; the Okabe Family, Japanese acrobats; St. Hellier and Dorothy, in song-scena, "Stage Struck"; Williams and Warden, vaudeville artistes; J. D. Hunter, in comedy sketch; the Two Trilbys, in musical tit-bits.

DUBLIN.

GAIETY THEATRE.—M., Mr. Chas. Hyland.—A large and fashionable audience welcomed the Dublin University Dramatic Society, who opened their annual engagement here on Monday night with "The School for Scandal." The production sets up a high standard of excellence that future members of the society will find it difficult to maintain. All the parts are adequately filled, notably the Lady Teazle of Mrs. Henry Webb, and the Joseph Surface of Mr. J. F. Crogan. The former, a daughter of the late Michael Gunn (formerly owner of the Gaiety), and sister to Miss Haidee Gunn, has already won her spurs on the stage, and her performance on Monday night was well worthy her great reputation. Mr. J. K. James made a capital Sir Peter, whilst Mr. G. V. Bradstreet brought out all the eccentricities of Sir Oliver Surface in clever style. The minor parts left nothing to be desired, and the mounting reflects the greatest credit on the society and Mr. Frank Royde, the producer. On Tuesday, the society produced "The American Citizen" with an entirely different cast, including Mr. Butt, who gave a professional finish to the name part; Miss Beatrice Carew, a delightful heroine; Messrs. Clarke, Walpole, White, Murray, etc., and Mrs. Cason, and the Misses Barnes, Deverell, and Colhoun. The play and the actors had an enthusiastic reception.

THEATRE ROYAL AND HIPPODROME. — M., Mr. Charles Terry. — A capital programme here is packing the house nightly. Erard's Vaudevillians occupy the place of honour, and present a delightful musical act, in which the vocalism reaches a high standard. Gladys Mavius, fresh from her triumphs as principal boy in "Mother Goose," has a rousing reception, and pays the penalty of popularity by gaining frequent encores. Barton and Ashley are delightfully droll in their smart skit, "Money Talks"; Lloyd and Lane contribute some smart burlesque work; the Czar Troupe treat us to some wonderful dances characteristic of their country; Pete and Juno dance themselves into general favouritism; and the Hanlon Bros. in "The Haunted Hotel" creates many a hearty laugh. Charles Grantley, with good songs, completes.

QUEEN'S.—P., Queen's Theatre (Dublin), Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Harry J. Bainton; G. M., Mr. C. F. Wright; Mus. D., Mr. Frank Baynton.—This week (once nightly, and Saturday matinée, 2.30).—Mr. T. Edward Ward's company in "A Lad's Love." The company includes: Henry Hallatt, Alec Wilson-Wynne, John Blake, H. Kenneth Barton, Percy Shaw, F. Thorpe-Tracey, Percy Godfred, George Walkley, Frederick Barrett, George S. Blount, Roland Ivan, Eily O'Dempsty, Violette May,

PAVILION PICTURE AND VARIETY PALACE.—P., Messrs. R. and J. Pennycook; M., Mr. J. Pennycook; Mus. D., Mr. James Walton.—This week (twice nightly): J. K. McFarlane, Scotch comedian; Norman H. Lee, impressionist; the Two Priories, rag-time dancers; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, 3.

TIVOLI THEATRE.—P. & M., Messrs. Edward and McIntosh; Mus. D., Mr. Wm. Blyth.—This week (twice nightly): Green and Gordon, in comedy act; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, 3.

NEW HIPPODROME.—P. & M., Mr. A. E. Binnall; Mus. D., Mr. Fred Ruse.—This week (twice nightly): Will Candlish, comedian; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, 3.

EASTBOURNE.

DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE.—L. & M., Messrs. Murray King and Clarke; Mus. D., Mr. Wilson B. Dibble.—This week (once nightly): On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, "Jelf's" will be presented by Messrs. Leighton and Yorke. The company includes: Mr. Gedge Twyman, Mr. Arthur McCulloch, Mr. Vincent W. Lawson, Mr. Edward Ouston, Mr. J. Court Harvard, Mr. Upton Sackville, Mr. Tom Howard, Mr. Ralph Gardner, Mr. Clarence Childs, Mr. Neville Audus, Mr. George T. Roberts, Mr. K. Fred Kassulke, Mr. C. T. Stevens, Miss Edith Cruikshanks, Miss Grace Denbeigh-Russell, Miss Cynthia Challis, and Miss Dorothy Mason. On Thursday, Friday, and Saturday: "The Amazons." Next week: "Bunty Pulls the Strings."

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Sidney W. Winter; M., Mr. H. Raymond; Mus. D., Mr. W. H. Ash.—This week (twice nightly): Miss Florence Smithers and company, including Mr. Owen Dacroy, Mr. Frank Esmond, and Miss Lilian Arnold, in "Our Mary Jane"; Mr. George Rapley, in comedy scena, "All 'Ot and Flow'ry" and "Ragtime crazy"; French and Frohmann, vocal comedy duo; Hanlon and Carls, trapeze performers; Miss Louisa Peach, supported by Mr. Charles Lind Vivian, presents "In a Corner"; Miss Daisy Hicks, comedienne; Mr. Charles Denman, light comedian; and pictures.

PIER PAVILION.—M., Mr. George Hayes; Mus. D., Mr. E. W. Peilgen.—This week (once nightly): Miss Hilda Beverley and company in "The White Girl Slave." The company includes: Mr. Frank V. Fenn, Mr. James Jarrett, Mr. Syd. Claydon, Mr. J. L. Inglis, Mr. Jack Armitage, Mr. Francis Cavans, Mr. Leonard Kendall, Mr. N. Hodge, Mr. Leonard Condroy, Mr. Ned Huzzee, Miss Dorothy Kirke, Miss Mary Brammer, Miss Grace Carew, and Miss Hilda Beverley.

DEVONSHIRE PARK FLORAL HALL.—M. & S., Mr. E. A. Brown.—This week: Saturday evening, Mr. Joseph Blascheck, humorist, gives "Society Snap-shots" assisted by Miss Mildred Wrighton. Pictures daily in the Pavilion.

ECCLES.

CROWN THEATRE.—P., Messrs. William Henry Broadhead and Son.—R. A. M., Mr. Albert Rogers.—This week (twice nightly): Bert Earle, comedian and jumper; Crawford and Wood, comedians; pictures.

EDINBURGH.

ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; A. M., Mr. John Darlison; Mus. D., Mr. E. J. Rogers.—Crowded audiences have thronged this theatre during the second week of the engagement of Mr. George Edwardes' company with "Gipsy Love," and the popular musical piece has again been received with every mark of favour

THEATRE ROYAL.—M. D., Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; A. M., Mr. Wm. Whitehead; Mus. D., Mr. E. J. Rogers.—The pantomime season closes this week, the concluding performances of "Sinbad" having been marked with the most cordial manifestations of approval for the production itself and for all the artistes who have been engaged in it. The entertainment has ministered to the pleasure of thousands of theatre-goers during its two months' run, and the management may be justly congratulated on adding one more record to the long list of pantomime successes which have been scored at this historic house. Among the players entrusted with the leading rôles, the names of Miss Maudie Thornton and Miss Phyllis Monkman, with the comedians, Messrs. Tom Foy, Tatten Hall, Cullen and Carthy, will no doubt be long and pleasantly remembered.

KING'S THEATRE.—P., The Edinburgh Construction Co., Ltd.; A. M., Mr. P. L. Howat; Mus. D., Mr. A. Douglas Wilcox.—The Royal Carl Rosa Opera company began the second week of the present engagement on Monday evening with a repetition of the fine performance of "The Magic Flute." Miss Elizabeth Burgas as Pamina and Mr. Frederick Clendon as Papageno giving especially successful impersonations of their respective rôles. Much interest was manifested in the representation of Carl Goldmark's "Queen of Sheba," which was played on Tuesday. Originally produced at the Imperial Vienna Opera House in 1875, the brilliant orchestration and masterly suggestions of Hebrew melodies in the work raised Goldmark to an assured position amongst contemporary composers. The rendering of the opera was worthy of its reputation. No finer interpretation of the part of King Solomon, alike from a dramatic and vocal standpoint, could be imagined than Mr. Arthur Winckworth's impressive performance. His sonorous voice was heard at its best in the music that falls to the character, and, in the powerful scene with the Queen of Sheba in Act III., Miss Phyllis Archibald and he were recalled three times. Mr. William Wegener in the trying part of Assad gave proof of ability both as actor and vocalist; while Mr. Frederick Clendon's appearance as the High Priest showed the versatility of this admirable artiste. Miss Phyllis Archibald in the name-part answered the severe call made upon her vocal and dramatic powers with ease and finish, and the audience displayed their appreciation by enthusiastic applause. Miss Ina Hill by a sympathetic and graceful embodiment of Sulamith expressed the pathos of the part with truth and effectiveness, and she sang, as she always does, with real feeling. Mr. Leslie Austin was excellent as Baal-Aarman, and Miss Dorothy Lawson-Tayler in the small part of the slave, Astaroth, acted well and sang the haunting air in Act II. with conspicuous success. The chorus and orchestra, under the able guidance of Mr. Eugene Goossens, contributed, in a large measure, to the ensemble of the performance, and the *mise-en-scène* was beautiful. The programme during the week has included "Carmen," "Maritana," "Mignon," and "The Lily of Killarney."

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. T. Aynsley Cook; Mus. D., Mr. James Howarth.—The popular and ideal coon artiste, Eugene Stratton, very successfully headed this week's bill, greatly delighting his many admirers, not only with his well-known favourite ditties, but also with his latest song studies, "Uncle Jasper" and "That little girl of Johnson's," in which Miss Aida Hall happily assisted. The famous Craggs, in the marine sketch, entitled "Billy," displayed their seemingly unlimited resources as comedy acrobats; and the Real McKays, a pair of juvenile Scottish singers and dancers, made an unmistakably favourable impression. No little interest was roused by Harry Blake's novel comedy creation, "The Man in the Moon"; Dora Lyric and Edie King were pleasing enough, the one as a refined chorus singer and the other as a comedienne and dancer; smart turns were contributed by Tom Jones, the whimsical Welshman, and by Fred Russell, with Coster Joe, in a ventriloquial sketch; and some good, up-to-date pictures were shown on the Bioscope.

FALKIRK.

GRAND THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. R. C. Buchanan; M., Mr. Horace W. Ebbutt.—This week: Mr. Harry McKelvie's company, in "Mother Hubbard" pantomime. The cast includes: Miss Edie Haley, Miss Maggie Fraser, Miss Renee Walton, Miss Nellie Graham, Miss Retla Halkett, Miss Violet Fraser, Miss Bessie Foley, Messrs. Peter Birmingham, J. S. Stephens, Charles Jackson, J. Randel Wilson, and the Bros. Lavelle.

ELECTRIC THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. J. E. Atkinson.—This week: Marquis de Gonza Trio, jugglers; the Ronald Trio, in comedy act; the Sisters Russell, duettists and dancers; the Wedburns, comedians; and pictures.

FERNDALE.

WORKMEN'S HALL.—M. Mr. David Williams.—This week (once nightly): Waldo and Wade, in "Pranks of a Postman"; Stuart and Evans, and pictures.

FOLKESTONE.

PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—M., Mr. H. E. Hampton; Mus. D., Mr. George Cooper.—This week (once nightly): Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday Mr. Alfredy Gray presents "The Amazons." The company includes: Mr. James Clifford, Miss Helen Ingelow, Miss Dorothy Radcliffe, Miss Irene Clarke, Miss V. Malcolm-Barnett, Miss Muriel Locking, Mr. Rule Pyott, Mr. Alfred Gray, Mr. Campbell Gargill, Mr. Laurence Meade, Mr. Eric Moss, Mr. A. Hardy. T. M., Mr. C. T. Chapman. Matinée, Wednesday, at 2.30. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, Mr. Brandon Thomas presents "Charley's Aunt." The company includes: Mr. Sydney Compton, Miss Ada Ferrar, Miss Florence Saunders, Miss Vera Cornish, Miss Pauline Hugen, Mr. T. McCausland Stewart, Mr. James Page, Mr. L. Anderson, Mr. F. T. Cooper, Mr. C. Windermere. Preceded by "The Colour-Sergeant." T. M., Mr. Cecil Barth. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.30. Next week: "Jelfs."

GATESHEAD.

METROPOLE.—P., Newcastle and Gateshead Theatres, Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Stanley Rogers; A. M., Mr. E. C. Howitt.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Bulmer presents "When Woman Hates." The cast includes: Mr. Fred Dalby, Mr. John Worth, Mr. Edwin Morton, Mr. Evan Roland, Mr. Reg. Oldroyd, Mr. T. C. Glenville, Mr. Vernon Minton, Mr. Harold Powell, Mr. Frank Dee, Miss Maude Steeple, Miss Nancy Newell, Miss Sybil Haughton, Miss Doris Brookes, T. M., Mr. S. C. Glenville.

KING'S THEATRE.—G. M., Mr. R. F. Douthwaite; A. M., Mr. M. S. Hammond.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Geo. Black presents "Dick Whittington." The company includes: Miss Isa Gibson, Mr. Sam Fay, Mr. Jack Conan, Mr. Dan Rodney, Miss Gertrude Gaye, Miss Daisy Gaye, Julian, Mr. Tom Bett, Mr. Sid Bett, Miss Jean King, Miss Kitty Rhoades, Miss Maisie Grey, Miss Freda Danilo. T. M., Mr. H. P. Parkinson. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.30. Next week: "Merrie England" and "Yeomen of the Guard," presented by the Gateshead Amateur O.S.

PALACE THEATRE.—P., Messrs. Black Bros.; G. M., Mr. A. Robertson, jun. — This week (twice nightly): Lacori Family, in trapeze act; Master Percy Gibson, vocalist; Tom E. Hood, comedian; and pictures.

SHIPCOTE HALL.—P., Messrs. Reed and Co.; G. M., Mr. John Fenwick.—This week (twice nightly): Musical Silvo, and pictures.

GILLINGHAM.

GRAND THEATRE.—P., Grand Picture and Variety Theatre, Gillingham, Kent, Ltd.; S. & R. M., Mr. W. T. Beattie.—This week (twice nightly): Leoni Clarke and his performing cats, rabbits, canaries, and monkeys; Maudie Leslie, comedienne and buck dancer; Chas. Bradford, comedian; La Vie, in art panel poses; and pictures. Children's matinée, Saturday, 2.30.

THE GEM.—P., Messrs. C. and S. Goodman. M., Mr. C. Goodman.—Stephen Blyth and Olga Fane's marionettes; Peter Shannon, vocalist; Steve Roberts, comedian; and pictures.

GLASGOW.

THEATRE ROYAL. — M. D., Messrs. F. W. Wyndham and Geo. T. Minshull; A. M., Mr. Harry F. Ashton.—The panto. here has now entered on its last twelve nights, but there is no falling off in the patronage. "The House That Jack Built" has proved a record success, and all the principals have become idols of the public. Misses Gwladys Soman, Ida Valli, Daisy Yates, Winnie Browne, and Ivey Latimer are one and all excellent in their respective parts, and the comedy supplied by Messrs. Billy Merson, W. Fullbrook, Leonard Barry, and Joe Nightingale is rich in excuses for laughter. Mr. Fred Barnes as the Prince is in a class all by himself and in other parts Messrs. Hess and Liston, Ian Lloyd-Mackenzie, Reginald Compton, and the dancers, Sydney Black, Blanche Leiper, and the Eight Russell Girls, have each added their quota to the general success.

KING'S.—M. D., Messrs. F. W. Wyndham and G. T. Minshull; B. M., Mr. Hugh Macfarlane.—After a most successful month's run Mr. Robert Courtneidge's beautiful production, "Princess Caprice," concludes this week. The fun contributed by Hessrs. Eric Thorne, Jo Monkhouse, and Harry Ray, the singing of Mr. Gordon Cleather, and the beauty and talent of Misses Marie Blanche, Isabelle Dillon, and Mary Dandridge, have been important factors in the success, and the manner in which Mr. Courtneidge has staged the play has undoubtedly given the Glasgow public a new standard from which to judge the merits of this class of entertainment.

ROYALTY.—Closed, preparing for dramatic season.

GRAND.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. Harry J. Crane.—Pantomime has given place to drama, and Miss Dot Stephens' company appear in the successful Irish play, "In Fear of the Law," which promises to have a prosperous week. Mr. Valmour Shain as Philip D'Arcy, on whom the plot of the piece turns, in voice and figure suits the character admirably; Mr. Hugh Brady as Phemus Magra has the most popular part, and as an Irish comedian stands comparison with other exponents, keeping the fun going on every appearance; Mr. Arthur Curzon as Dennis O'Dwyer, the informer, capably interpreted the part, and received the usual unstinted reception; as Father O'Grady Mr. Norman Tracy was quiet but effective; Miss Olga B. Hazlewood gave a realistic study of the pathetic part of Mona Magra, while Miss Stephens herself in her singing and acting of the part of Peggy was charming, and has added to her laurels since she appeared in Glasgow previously.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S THEATRE.—P. & M., Mr. Rich Waldon; A. M., Mr. Hugh Murdoch; Mus. D., Mr. Henri Vollmer.—The pantomime season is still in full swing, and "Goody Two-Shoes" at the Princess's is attracting large crowds at each performance. Miss Jennie Hartley as Goody Two-Shoes, Miss Kitty Dale as Harry, and Miss Kitty and Rita Emson as Cherrie and Tony, all act and sing admirably. Mr. Dan Whitley as Dan keeps the house on the laugh throughout, and Mr. Billy Walters as Tam, the Postie, is also very funny.

METROPOLE, LTD.—M. D., Mr. Arthur Jefferson; A. M., Mr. Harry C. Edwin.—"The Girl of My Heart" is a Royal Navy drama, which is this week meeting with great success at the Metropole. Mr. Herbert Leonard plays the part of Will Stewart excellently, and Miss G. Hastings Walton is charming in the part of Mary Graham (a schoolmistress). Major Alfred Fulton is ably filled by Mr. George Arthur; as were also the parts of Ben Lanky by Mr. J. Claxton Turner, Barker (the broker's man) by Will Webb, and Sarah Bradley by Miss Laura Dyson. Competent artistes fill the remaining parts.

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; M., Mr. G. Rhodes Parry; Asst. M., Mr. Robt. S. Harvey.—The principal attraction here is Mme. Anna Fay, who presents a unique and mystifying performance. Mabel Medrow, direct from her Grand Theatre panto. success, sang several songs in pleasing style. The other artistes completing a good programme include: Gisela and Rose, in a pot-pourri act; O'Brien Bros., horizontal bar performers; Reg. Brown, vocal comedian; Hart and Johnson, coloured comedians; and the popular comedian, Ernest Shand, well described the pink of comic smartness.

PAVILION, LTD. — G. M., Mr. Evan Good; Mus. D., Mr. R. F. Steele.—The return of Marie Loftus to her native city is always welcome, and this favourite artiste is making a big hit both in her new songs and her old successes. The Jackson Family of trick cyclists are really marvellous for the number and the cleverness of their feats and the ease with which they perform them adds to their popularity. Henri Bekker, assisted by Miss Maie, introduced a great many sleight-of-hand tricks, neatly carried through and interspersed with pleasant touches of humour. Frank F. Street and company provide an exciting turn with their Western sketch, "The Gun Fighter," in which the story is clever and the acting very good indeed. Campbell and Brady are a smart couple of novelty entertainers who take well. Bert Rayburn is a quaint little lump of comedy; Harry Bickley's humorous items are well received; and a feast of fun is provided by the eccentric acrobatic act of the Jenkins Bros. The concluding item is a first-rate balancing turn given by the Gillis Trio.

PALACE.—P., Mr. Rich Waldon; G. M., Mr. Harry M'Kelvie; Mus. D., Mr. Arthur Fellowes.—Herbert Sleath's company are capital in the melodramatic playlet, "In the Third Degree." Mr. Gerald Valentine as Casey, a refined crook, is excellent, whilst Mr. A. C. Hardie, as Inspector Reynolds, leaves nothing to be desired; Vera, Veda and company are popular in a garden song scena; James Houston and company have a funny sketch in "Bashful Jock." Others here are Jack Frazer, the new Scotch comedian; Anita Wayman, an excellent vocalist; Griff, the humorous one, as laughter-making as ever; Dollie and Rosie, comediennes and dancers; and the Five Whiteleys in a wonderful wire-walking acrobatic musical mélange.

COLISEUM, LTD. — P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Frank Allen; R. M., Mr. Arthur E. Barnes.—This week (twice nightly): Lowenwirth and Cohan, with their amusing patter and catchy songs, are much in evidence here, while the Kellinos cause plenty of fun in their acrobatic sketch, "The Crazy Tailors." Captain Taylor's dog and monkey actors show that they have been carefully trained. The Four Ascots' singing and dancing prove very popular; Lily Lena is a charming comedienne; Park's Eton Boys and Girton Girls, in song scena "At Home," are most entertaining. Cameron Matthews and Jessamine in farcical sketch, "The Honeymoon Baby"; and Peter and Potts, comedians, with the Bioscope, makes an excellent programme.

ALHAMBRA.—M. D., Mr. Alfred Butt; M., Mr. Edward Foster. — Max Erard's picturesque and melodious production, "Shepherdland," is a very pleasing feature in the programme here; while for a hearty laugh, the sketch, "Faking the Film; or, Skinnymacolour," would be heard to beat, with Freddy Rigby as the billsticker, and Louis Du Cane as the Manager; those exceedingly clever young performers, Beatie and Babs, divide the week between their comedy scenas, "A Pavement Rehearsal" and "Sagragette"; the operatic burlesque of Jake Friedman proves highly diverting; the Miles-Stavordale Quintette render popular songs on the banjo with admirable taste; Gallin's ventriloquial act is of special merit; the dancing of Rivers and Sullivan stamps them as experts in that line; and Ernest H. Mills does very smart work as a lightning cartoonist.

LYCEUM, GOVAN, LTD.—R. M., Mr. J. H. Oakden; Mus. D., Mr. Thomas Walker.—Topping the bill here is the ever popular Austin Rudd, who is enthusiastically received in several new songs and old favourites rendered in his own inimitable style, his Insurance Bill skit being exceptionally funny. A flattering reception is also accorded Horace Wheatley, the genial Irishman of the old school, whose vocal items, stories, and superb dancing are loudly applauded. Lytton and De Silva, operatic vocalists, use their rich and cultured voices with great effect, and are heartily received in charming numbers, their harmonisation being perfect. Graeme Athol and Joe Valli, comedy magicians, have struck some very original business, which meets with hearty appreciation. Jean Kram, erratic juggler, is well received in several cleverly executed juggling feats, while Rey and Rey, character comedians, are highly diverting in cross-talk business, while their vocal number adds to the enjoyment of their appearance. Probyn and Bates evoke the heartiest laughter in their burlesque song scena, while in the art of dancing they have nothing to learn. The Four Cronies make a welcome reappearance in their original Scotch musical sketch, "Poosie Nansie," which is admirably presented by Miss Cameron Gray, Mr. Colin T. Cowie, Mr. Tom Campbell, and Mr. R. S. Forrest, a feature being the delightful vocal numbers submitted. Novelty characterises the contribution by Mlle. Sarema, who presents a miniature circus performance carried through entirely by forty different animals. Acrobatic monkeys, dancing dogs, and a highly-trained pony are features of a very attractive and enjoyable number. A series of pictures on the Bioscope conclude.

OLYMPIA.—L., Messrs. De Frece and Edelsten, Ltd.; M., Mr. John M'Millan; Mus. D., Mr. Lex Holmes.—A first-class variety company is billed here this week, and the programme submitted is one of exceptional merit. Mazuz and Mazette top the bill, and had a gratifying reception in their eccentric comedy act, the antics and tricks of the pair being fully appreciated by the audience; the world-famous Medani Troupe contribute daring feats of balancing and tumbling, while their feats of strength and agility command applause; the Kratons supply a unique entertainment. "In Hoopland," throwing all manner of common hoops about the stage to the astonishment of the audience; while the Sauteron Troupe (two men and a dog) delight with their funniosities. Other members of the company include: Kitty Smart, male impersonator, à la Vesta Tilley; W. P. Wentley, Scotland's sprig o' heather; Sisters Birtles, comediennes and dancers; Harry Knox, comedian; and new and up-to-date pictures by the Olympia Bioscope.

SAVOY. — L., Lillie Williams, Ltd.; M., Mr. Harry Godwin.—The Ten Souasa Arabs head an enormous bill with their wonderful tumbling business; Paul Corrix, weight-lifter and juggler, appears with much satisfaction; as do Charles Santon, double-voiced vocalist; J. H. McCann, roller-skater; Vi Maylott, comedienne; Three Beau Brummels, in a first-rate rag-time act; McGill and Lester, in a bright song scena; Duncan and Swan, cross-talkers; Dare and Darrell, comedians; Olive Olloms, comedienne and dancer; Valvero's Naval Bombardment, a clever lightning-artist turn; Lieut. Gordon, a ventriloquist above the ordinary; Little Ella, a decidedly talented comedienne; the Reanos supplying good vocal and instrumental music; Monty McVean, Scotch comedian; Les Rays, comediennes and dancers; Danbury Bros., comedians and dancers; Flo Ramsay, comedienne; the Lembergs, in a screaming farce, "My Brother-in-law's Gun"; Seekbett, boy magician; and Reuben Hill, a clever descriptive vocalist. Despite the length of the programme time was found for an extra turn, a lady and gentleman pianist, in a song scena which took excellently.

HENGLER'S, LTD.—M. D., Mr. A. Hengler; G. M., Mr. Harry Milne.—This is the last week of the phenomenal success, "The Balkans," which, backed up as it has been by a first-rate circus and variety programme, has filled the place to overflowing both at matinée and evening performances for the last three months. On Monday the entire accommodation of the circus was reserved for the 3rd Lowland Brigade Royal Field Artillery, but from Tuesday onwards, and with three matinées thrown in to help maters, Hengler's has been taxed to its capacity by the crowds at every performance.

PRINGLE'S, LTD.—M. D., Mr. Ralph Pringle; R. M., Mr. George Paulton; Mus. D., Mr. William Milne.—This week (twice nightly): The Lizzette Trio, smart acrobats, do clever tricks, while the singing and dancing of the Sisters St. Clair was much admired. The pictures are well selected.

STAR PARTICK.—P., Star Picture and Vaudeville Co., Ltd.; R. M., Mr. George Chandos.—First-class fare is this week served up to the numerous patrons of this popular house Maud and Gill create merriment in a comedy gymnastic act, their clever horizontal bar and trapeze work being loudly applauded. Exceptionally fine entertainment is provided by Steve Adams' Pierrots, a company of young artistes of outstanding merit. In their combined and individual numbers a high standard of vocalism is reached, while their dancing items are gracefully executed, and call forth the heartiest appreciation. A unique contribution is that of Frantz Bohm, the lightning painter, whose smart work on the canvas creates great enthusiasm, his local scenic efforts being specially applauded.

PANOPTICON.—P. & M., Mr. A. E. Pickard; G. M., Mr. W. Sinclair; S., Mr. G. S. Downing.—This week (twice nightly): The Two Harols, comedy artistes; Nellie O'Hagan, comedienne; Will Elder, Scotch comedian; Alice Graham, colleen; Semplet's Kidlets, acrobats and equilibrists; and pictures.

CASINO.—Sole P., Mr. A. E. Pickard; R. M., Mr. H. C. Glenroy; S., Mr. Guy E. Dunning.—This week (twice nightly): George Knight, female impersonator; Chorley and Connor, Scottish comedians; W. H. Smart, comedian and dancer; and pictures.

PICTURE PALACE, IBROX.—Sole P., Mr. A. E. Pickard; R. M., Mr. W. Sowerby; S., Mr. G. E. Dunning.—This week (twice nightly): Reel and Tulloch, Scotch comedy duo; Tom Lively, comedian and dancer; and pictures. Children's matinée, Saturday, at 3 p.m.

GLOSSOP.

THEATRE ROYAL.— P. & M., Mr. Sydney Spenser; A. M. and Mus. D., Mr. W. E. Cottrill.—This week: Miss Lizzie Linton presents "Sinbad the Sailor." The cast includes: Miss Cissie Linton, Misses Dot Irving, Hilda Fern, Ella Strada, and Sisters Barrett, and Messrs. Chas. Gay, J. Igo, F. Lord. H. Wallace, H. Tullett, Will Bell, Harry Arnold, and Charles Linton, jun. Sisters Romney, dancers; Charles Edwardus, in comedy act; the Etheld Quartette, vocalists; and Jack and Vera, in dancing duo. Matinée, Saturday.

GLOUCESTER.

PALACE.—L. & G. M., Mr. Will Smithson; R. M., Mr. R. T. Rea.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Lodge-Percy and Miss Henrietta Schrier present "The Woman he Wanted." The company includes: Mr. Lodge-Percy, Mr. Clavering Craig, Mr. Richard S. Norton, Mr. F. W. Fields, Mr. J. O. Cuthbertson, Mr. William S. Allen, Mr. Frederick Johnston, Mr. Theo Gantier, Mr. Reginald Winter, Mr. Harold Montague, Miss G. Carton, Miss Hilary Burleigh, Miss Tina Langlers, Miss Dorrie Lawrence, Miss Henrietta Schrier. Next week: "The Chocolate Soldier."

KING'S HALL.—L., Messrs. Poole's Theatres, Ltd.—This week: Paul Herma, Ernie Clapham, and Fred. Davenport and company.

GRANTHAM.

EMPIRE.—P. & M., Mr. J. A. Campbell; A. M., Mr. W. Marshall.—This week (twice nightly): W. H. Glaze's company in "No Mother to Guide Her." The company includes: Mr. George Gormley, Mr. Huntley Gordon, Mr. Leonard Clarke, Mr. H. Ryleland-Leigh, Mr. Will Glaze, Mr. Tom Beasley, Mr. Fred Wynne, Mr. Alfred Morris, Mr. John Plume, Mr. Charles Drew, Mr. William Walker, Miss Roma Pendrous, Miss Georgie de Lara, Miss Betty Seymour. T. M., Mr. W. H. Glaze. Next week: "What Happened to Jones."

GREAT YARMOUTH.

ROYAL AQUARIUM.—Sole P., Mr. W. H. Nightingale; A. M., Mr. Hy. Furnival. This week: Miss Ida Millais presents "A Dark Secret." The company includes: Messrs. Geo. Langdon, Cuthbert H. Taylor, Alfred Wilson, Henry Herne, Bartley Payne, Reg. Kendrick, H. Wallace Carnock, Hy. Watson, John Weston, A. H. Howson, George May, Fred Montrose, the Misses Amy Ellams, Maggie Stewart, Constance Lauri, and Ida Millais.

HIPPODROME.—Sole P., Mr. Geo. Gilbert.—This week: Solo; Sam Weller; Whitney and Joyner, a laf raser; the Four Sisters Netherland; and pictures.

THE GEM.—M. D., Mr. E. V. Barr.—This week: The Eight Welsh Miners; Bert Lawrie; Jack Egan; and pictures.

GRIMSBY.

PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. J. H. Curry; A. M., Mr. Henry Carlton; Mus. D., Mr. J. R. Bingley.—This week: The Grimsby and Cleethorpes Amateur Operatic Society are presenting "Merrie England."

PALACE. — G. M., Mr. F. Verner Walford; A. M., Mr. H. S. Surfleet; Mus. D., Mr. T. Stevens.—This week: Henri De Vries' naval sketch, "Submarine F7"; Six Donovans, in musical speciality; Alice Craven, Lancashire comedienne; Florence Wilton and Charles F. Howard, in "The Winner"; Haidee Lee and Wallace Kingston, in "Flirtology"; Miss Maude Hughes, soprano; and the Croisit Trio, French acrobats.

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GUERNSEY.

THEATRE ST. JULIAN'S.—M. D., Messrs Ed. Marris and Albany Ward; R. M., Mr George A. Deighton.—This week (once nightly): The Three Rochesters, Betty, Adolf, and Babs; Ray Glynn, in musical and dancing act; Marco, man of mystery; and pictures. Matinée, Saturdays, 3 p.m

HALIFAX.

THEATRE ROYAL.—M. D., Mr. Wm. Robinson; G. M., Mr. Otto C. Culling; Mus. D., Mr. Edwin James.—This week, Mr. George Dance's Co. in "The Hope." The company includes: Franklyn Bellamy, J. L. V. Leigh, R. S. Trelawney, Montague Weston, Harry Hardy, Frank Sealey, E. Clifford Coobe, J. Michael Watson, John Baxter, Frank D'Esterre, Leslie J. Banks, V. Harbord, Bertram Phillips, Harry Phydora, Enid G. Forde, Hilda Vaughan, Daisy Gwynne, Irene Gordon, Winifred Burke, Freda Wharton, Marjorie Lawton, Ivy Shepperd. T. M., Mr. Chas. Gibbon. Next week: "Milestones."

GRAND.—M. D., Mr. Wm. Robinson; G. M., Mr. Otto C. Culling; R. M., Mr. Joe Hinton.—Mr. A. E. Smith's Co. in "Jack and the Beanstalk." Company includes: Miss Damaris Du Pere, Miss Annie Hill, Miss Florence Herbert, Miss Enid D'Alroy, Miss Vera Leslie, Miss Mollie St. Clair, Miss Dora Manners, Miss Bettie Beryl, Miss Katrina March, the Sember Sisters, Miss Elsie Verries, Miss Eva Linacre, Miss Stella Chapman, Miss Kitty Cashville, Miss Gladys Dale. Miss Madge Abbott, Miss Maud Gresham, Sisters Marsden, Mr. Arthur Long, Miss Alice Gresham, Miss Millie Watson, Miss May Bevan, Miss May Skidmore, Miss Dollie St. Clair, Mr. Harry Kirk, Mr. Will Skidmore, the Brothers Hinson, Mr. Ben Lambe, Mr. Fred Kirk. Next week: "The Great White Chief."

PALACE.—M. D., Mr. Frank Macnaghten; M., Mr. Edgar O. Waller; Mus. D., Mr. Ernest A. Widdup.—This week: Miss Helena Millais and Co. in "Silver Creek"; Miss Marie Schulz in "The Willow Pattern Plate"; the Raymond Trio, dancing act; Haydee's Miniature Vaudeville Theatre; the Three Royal Matsuis, Japanese entertainers; Ragoilo, the R.A. tramp; Terry Twins, comedians.

HANLEY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., the Hanley Theatres and Circus, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone; M., Mr. Frank Powis.—This week (once nightly): Messrs. Lionel Rignold and Charles Macdona present "Fanny's First Play." The company includes: T. Conner, Gordon Simpson, Algernon Syms, Olive Baxter, Richard Green, F. Payne Palmer, L. Herbert, L. Sealy, jun., Charles Macdona, Adelaide Grace, Frank G. Bayly, Nellie Hodson, E. H. Paterson, Marie Rignold, Ethel O'Shea, Gilbert Ritchie, Herbert Garthorne. T. M., Mr. L. Herbert. Matinée, Thursday, at 2. Next week: "The Quaker Girl."

GRAND.—P., Hanley Theatres and Circus, Ltd.; M., Mr. F. Dudman Bromwich. — This week: Kara, juggler; Anita Correze, soprano; Ethel Loftus, character comedienne; Wild, Willie, and West, acrobatic comedians; Margit and Lenner, in "Wet Paint"; Elton and Edwin, banjoists; Dahl, Rubie, and Gordon Bella, comedy duo; and pictures.

KING'S.—L., Mr. J. P. Moore; M., Mr. Colin Hazlewood.—This week: Sineira, Miss Anita Correze, and pictures.

HARROGATE.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—M. D., Mr. William Peacock; A. M., Mr. Eric Fielding-Smith.—This week (first three nights only, once nightly): Dan McCan and Charles W. Dockwray present "The Middleman." Company includes: Charles W. Dockwray, Julian Cross, Alfred Weston, Douglas G. Murray, Percy Russell, William Hutchings, Leslie Nutter, Reginald Dainton, Robert Steele, Henry Coleman, George Foreman, George Warden, May St. George, Mary Bartrick, Olive Duncan, Margaret Penson, Dolores Fitzgerald, Vere Baker. T. M., Dan McCan. On Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, Captain Frank Shaw presents "All Square."

HASTINGS.

GAIETY THEATRE.—M., Mr. H. W. Rowland; R. A. M., Mr. C. E. Scutt.—First three nights this week and matinée, Wednesday, at 2.30: Mr. Brandon Thomas's company in "Charley's Aunt," preceded by "The Colour-Sergeant." The cast includes: Messrs. Theo McCausland Stewart, James Page, Lawrence Anderson, F. T. Cooper, Charles Windermere, Sydney Compton, Walter Bannister, Misses Mabel Young, Florence Saunders, Vera Cornish, Pauline Hugen, Nancy Harding. T. M., Mr. Walter Bannister; Mus. D., Mr. Thos. Hilton. The latter half of the week: Mr. F. Cyril Leighton's company in "Jelf's."

HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING.

GAIETY.—P., Messrs. Hall and Ainsley; M., Mr. Robt. Ainsley.—This week: Mr. Joe Redfern presents the pantomime, "Cinderella." The company includes: Messrs. Willie Westwood, George Houghton, Walter Amner, Harold Carlyle, Will Charlton, and Misses Jessie Wilton, Val Gerald, Ada Bellfield, Vanda Rees, Kitty Marston, Violet Charlton, Alice Bellfield, Marion Holly, and the Eight Dairy Maids.

EMPIRE.—P., Houghton Empire Theatres, Ltd.; M., Mr. W. H. Lindon Travers.—This week: Dante, illusionist; Zarius, juggler; and pictures.

HUDDERSFIELD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; B. M., Mr. Fred Benton.—This week (once nightly and matinée, Saturday, 2.15): Mr. George Dance's company in "The Quaker Girl." The company includes: Frank H. Crimp, Fred Monti, G. McCloskie, Frederick Hobbs, Henry Adnes, J. Lennox, John Duncan, Glen Owen, William Green, Hilda Stuart, Doris Dennis, Ivy Harcourt, Jenny Armstrong, May Marshall, Kitty Develin, Lucille Vivien, Lily Green, Cissie Guiver, Hilda Bellamy, Ida Harvey, Adela Crispin. M., Mr. T. J. Phillips. Next week: "Bella Donna."

HIPPODROME.—P., The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. William Robinson; G. M., Mr. Otto C. Culling; R. M., Mr. S. Winks.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. and Mrs. Charles Draycott's company, in "The Great White Chief." The company includes: Messrs. Percy Follis, Russell Norrie, Charles E. Johnson, Leonard Maitland, Maurice Love, Misses Dorothy Charles and Phyllis Elton, and Mrs. Charles Draycott.

PALACE.—P., Mr. Frank Macnaghten; M., Mr. Herbert Garside.—This week: Mr. [illegible] Montgomery and E. C. Jazon's pantomime, "Babes in the Wood." The company includes: Miss [illegible] Beaumont, Miss Ruby Emmerson, Sisters St. Julien, Mr. Jack Terrie, Messrs. Tom and Neil, Mr. Clarence Turner, Mr. Billy Curzon, and Laurie and Elsie. Specialities by Rochester's Sextette and the Eight Sunbeams.

HULL.

GRAND THEATRE.—Mortons, Ltd.; M., Mr. W. F. Morton; Mus. D., Mr. W. Herman.—Mr. and Mrs. Graham Moffat have created a big success already with their presentation of "Bunty Pulls the Strings," and now in the latest, "A Scrape o' the Pen," which was submitted on Monday, they are destined to repeat that success. Mrs. Moffat, as Leezie, presents a portrait not likely to be forgotten. Mr. Moffat, as Inglis, seizes every opportunity that the rôle affords, and the actor-author scores at every turn. Mr. Watson Hume creates a fine impression by the natural manner in which he presents the rôle of Hugh, and Miss Mattie McLellan plays the part of Jean Lowther with fine finish. Mr. Robert Purdie scores well as Alec. Unstinted praise should go to Miss Margaret Noble (Flora). The rest of the company play with spontaneity and unrestrained art. A little one-act comedy "Till the Bells Ring," is pleasingly produced.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Mortons, Ltd.; M., Mr. Geo. Morton.—"Humpty Dumpty" has entered upon its last lap, and to-night (Saturday), when the curtain falls, it will do so upon one of the biggest successes the Morton management have recorded. As early as Monday the whole of the reserved portion of the house had been booked for the final performance. Mr. Stratton Mills has given Hull one of the finest of pantomime dames, and his study will long be remembered. Miss Minnie Love has scored throughout the run as principal boy. The songs and choruses, the ballets, and the stage setting generally have been praised by all who have witnessed the panto during its all too short run.

PALACE THEATRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Frank Allen; A. M., Mr. John S. Barnett.—The Real Rag-timers, an assembly of coloured Americans, are exploiting some fine examples of the latest craze with phenomenal success. Captain Woodward's performing sea lions and seals provide a delightful turn, the tricks of these animals revealing careful and patient training; L'Incognita, the masked soprano, deserved the recognition bestowed upon her for her clever singing; the Rawsons were excellent in their musical entertainment, in a comedy sketch entitled "A Pair of Jacks"; the Russell Trio evoke hearty plaudits; the Roland Bros. display great skill in their equilibristic act; Thora, ventriloquist, is much enjoyed; other popular items include: George Rae, Scotch comedian; and Ethel Eden, comedienne and dancer; pictures conclude.

TIVOLI.—L., The Kingston Varieties Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Harry Slingsby.—Mr. Geo. Black presented his successful pantomime, "Cinderella," to enthusiastic audiences on Monday night. Miss May Gibson plays the part of Cinderella, and is a great favourite; the other characters are admirably portrayed by Misses Kitty Upton, Gertie Rex, Annie Cohen, Mr. Percy Johnson, Mr. Stanley Vandyke, Bert Earle, and Jack Melville. The specialities by Firth and Forth are deservedly applauded, and the chorus is an efficient one.

ILKESTON.

VINT'S ELECTRIC PICTUREDROME. — P., Mr. Leon Vint; R. M., Mr. Aubrey Allen.—This week: L'Etoiles, in posing act; Four Burnelles, the crazy golfers; Little Peter Pan, tenor vocalist; pictures.

INVERNESS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Mr. F. Kelso.—This week: The Raeburns, vocalists; Dare-Devil May, trick cyclist; Dan Fraser, comedian; and pictures.

IPSWICH.

LYCEUM.—P., The Ipswich Lyceum, Ltd.; L., Messrs. Murray King, Clark, and W. H. Savory; R. M., Mr. Cecil P. Blumberg; Mus. D., Mr. H. Lewin Taylor.—This week: Mr. N. Thorpe Mayne's No. 1 company, in "Improper Peter." The cast includes: Mr. Cyril Austen-Lee, Mr. N. Thorpe Mayne, Mr. Ned Llewelyn, Mr. Lenox Rashleigh, Mr. Fred Wallis, Mr. C. K. Francis, Mr. Victor George, Mr. Thos. Barry, Miss Winifred Gardner, Miss Margaret Dolomore, Miss Nellie Beryl, Miss Bessie Jewell, Miss Margaret Dennistoun, Miss Violet Masters, and Miss Beryl Hamilton. Next week: "Charley's Aunt."

HIPPODROME.—S. P., Mr. E. H. Bostock; R. M., Mr. A. Gordon Bostock.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Harry Roxbury's pantomime, "Mother Goose." The cast includes: Mr. Frank H. Morton, Mr. Fred Acton, Mr. F. Robinson, Mr. J. W. Gallagher, Mr. Walter Dale, the Lemairs, Day and Deen, Miss Zeta Murdoch, Miss Kitty Russell, Miss Cissie Esdaile, Miss Rosa Bartlett, Miss Irene Millard, Miss Madeline Dore, Miss Nellie Tomlinson, Miss M. Douglas, and Miss Violet Brown. Also Mr. Sydney T. Russell's Eight Sydney Girls. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30

JARROW.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. & M., Mr. Hugh Robertson; S. M. and S., Mr. T. Edward Evans.—This week (once nightly): Messrs. Montgomery and Jazon present "Cinderella." The company includes: George Norton, Ennis Parkes, the Antipons, Ryde and Beeman, Rhoda Ring, Gertie Douglas, May Godfrey, Linda A. Arthur, Ethel Brailsford, Leo Fields. T. M., Mr. Edward Beecher. Matinée, Saturday, at 2. Next week: "The Gambler."

EMPIRE.—P., The Jarrow Theatres, Ltd.; M., Mr. Percy Dawsone.—This week: The Bros. Ford, Messrs. Vowles and Bryan, Miss Wee Betty Alma, Miss Maud May Murray, and pictures.

JERSEY.

OPERA HOUSE.—L., Jersey and Guernsey Amusements Co., Ltd.; R. M., Mr. Stanley Hope; Asst. M., Mr. A. F. Williams.—This week (once nightly): The Sylvester Trio, vocalists and dancers; Four Wotucaulems, comedians; pictures. Matinée, Saturday, at 3.

KETTERING.

COLISEUM.—P., Messrs. Thompson Bros.; M., Mr. A. Thompson.—This week: Marie Santoi and company in "A Night in Japan"; Ellis Barrieton, vocalist; Le Burl, the dancing model; Delvaine's Marionettes; and pictures.

PALACE.—P., the Palace Theatres, Ltd.; M., Mr. J. G. Covington.—This week: The Eight Stella Ladies; Layton and Douglas, instrumentalists; Bert Groves, comedian; Les Petits Anglais; and pictures.

KILMARNOCK.

KING'S THEATRE.—L., Lillie Williams and Co.; M., Mr. Thomas Rodger.—This week: Mr. Arthur Roberts and company, in "H.M.S. Roberts," "The Importance of Being Another Man's Wife," "The Girl Who Lost Her Honeymoon," and "Till Sunday"; Mr. Wilson Blackledge, entertainer.

PALACE.—M., Mr. J. Cummings.—The three Arleys, with troupe of dogs; Miss Frances Hanlon, comedienne; and Les Carmody Trio, jugglers.

KIRKCALDY.

KING'S THEATRE.—This week (once nightly and Saturday matinée, 2.30).—"The Miracle." The company includes: Miss Elsie Saville, R. Ossulston Riche, and Miss Hilda Playfair.

LANCASTER.

GRAND THEATRE.—L. & M., Mr. Stanley Rogers; A. M., Mr. Tom Braithwaite.—This week (once nightly): Messrs. A. and F. Horniman present "Hindle Wakes." The company includes: Mr. W. H. Dewhurst, Miss Beatrice Fielden Kaye, Miss Florence Rutter, Mr. Charles Freeman, Miss Di Forbes, Mr. George Keene, Mr. Frank Howard, Miss Hilda Kenyon, Miss Ida Warrington. T. M., Mr. Frank Howard. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.

HIPPODROME.—P. & M., Mr. John Porter.—This week (twice nightly): Drawee, Hambo, and Frisco, in comedy act; Tim Carlisle, college comedian, Athol Trio, vocalists and dancers; Jumel and Ruby, instrumentalists; Renaud Lockwood and Co., in comic playlet; pictures.

LEEDS.

QUEEN'S.—P., Mr. F. Wood; M. and Licensee, Mr. Charles Bush.—This week (twice nightly, matinée, Monday, 2.30): Mr. Raynor's Répertoire Co. On Monday, Tuesday and Saturday (including Monday matinée) in "Moths"; on Wednesday and Thursday in "A Bunch of Violets"; and on Friday, "Billy's Little Love Affair." The company includes: Mr. Tom Welsh, Miss Nellie Bonsor, Miss Millicent Granville, Miss Dolly James, Miss Gertrude Bonsor, Miss Ennis Lawsn, Mr. Raynor, Mr. Clinton Baddeley, Mr. Milton C. Curtis, Mr. Walter A. James, Mr. Charles Brandon, Mr. Eric S. Crowther, etc. Next week: "The House That Jack Built."

EMPIRE.—A. M., Mr. Percy C. Rowe.—George Mozart appears as the premier turn here, after a long absence, and his clever and amusing studies met with much approbation. Grey and White give a smart musical entertainment. The Van der Koors appear in a clever illusion act, and Vittorio and Georgetto dance neatly on their hands. Other good turns include Sable Fern and company, Sisters Lydon, Joe Madden and company, and Albert Rees.

HIPPODROME.—A. M., Mr. Bertram J. Brown.—Mr. G. P. Huntley, Miss Eva Kelly, and Mr. Harry Grattan appear in a clever sketch, "Curios." The character of the Old Curiosity fits the abilities of Mr. Huntley admirably, and he is enthusiastically received. Carl Hertz is another big attraction. Baby Watson, assisted by Miss Florrie, give a sparkling entertainment, and Dorris and Francis excel as simultaneous dancers; the Two Styles are eccentric vocal comedians, and Phil and Nettie Peters and Cliff Ryland complete.

CITY VARIETIES.—P., Mr. Fred W. Wood; A. M., Mr. Harry Dunford.—Kate and Tom Major appear with much success in a unique sketch, "After the Overture." Gordon and Elgin are clever exponents of various rag-time dances; and a novel and daring gymnastic entertainment is given by D'Alvar and Laurie. A charming soprano singer is Lena Bluette, and the Four Herberts are smart speciality dancers. Squire Day in a ventriloquial act completes a bright entertainment.

LEEK.

GRAND THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—P., The Leek Theatre Co., Ltd.; L. and M., Mr. James Bibby; Mus. D., Mr. H. W. Goldstraw.—This week (twice nightly): The Miller Sutcliffes, in "Highland Sports and Pastimes," introducing the bass drum king; Dainty Ivy Stephens, vocalist and dancer; Terse and Sharp, dancers, including dancing in mid-air; and pictures.

SALISBURY PALACE.—P., The Leek Skating Rink Co., Ltd.; Licensee, Mr. Sampson Salt; G. M., Mr. George Salt; A. M., Mr. George E. Gough; Mus. D., Mr. Harold Ellis.—This week (twice nightly): Irma Orbasany, comedienne; Freda Plowden, chorus vocalist; Harry Hutin, legmania comedian; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.

LEICESTER.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—P. & M., Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; B. M., Mr. W. J. Andrews; Mus. D., Herr Theo Klee.—Mr. Geo. Dance's company occupy the board here this week on a return visit in "Kismet," presented in a manner leaving nothing whatever to be desired. Mr. Hubert Carter makes a brilliant success as Hajj, and Miss Georgina Milne as Marsinah gives an altogether delightful portrayal. Mr. Frederick Annerley does exceedingly well as the Wazir Mansur, and Mr. Geo. R. Montford as the Caliph Abdullah is excellent. Others in the cast to be singled out for praise are Miss Amy Fanchette as Marjis, Miss Nina Lyn as Kut-al-Kulub, and Mr. F. W. Ford, the Sheik Jawan.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole L. & M., Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; A. M., Mr. P. Allerton Turner; Mus D., Mr. J. H. Vann.—The late Wilson Barrett's domestic drama, "The Sledge Hammer," presented by Mr. W. V. Garrod's company, is this week's attraction here. It has all the essentials that make for success, the terrific fight with sledge-hammers between the two blacksmiths being most realistically done. Mr. Garrod's company is a capable one, and the play is meeting with success.

PALACE THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. Oswald Stoll; A. M., Mr. Geo. F. Reynolds; A. M., Mr. W. Faber Stewart; Mus. D., Mr. John W. Lowe.—The leading attraction here this week is Maskelyne and Devant's unsolvable mystery, "The Window of the Haunted House," a really wonderful illusion that creates the greatest interest. At the other end of the bill is Mollie Wells, who is assisted by her author and composer, Frank Mayban. This turn is one of the most delightful that it has been our pleasure to see at Leicester, and the gifted and artistic little lady well deserves the success that her clever songs undoubtedly warrant. Josh Clifton's Six Ceylons make a big hit, and do some exceedingly smart acrobatic feats in their comedy. "A Dream in an Opium Den"; Ludwig Amann, the well-known impersonator of celebrities, is scoring his usual success, his many clever items terminating with a remarkably good one of King George; Ike and Will Scott are thoroughly mirth-provoking comedians and smart dancers; the Mayvilles always please with their Lilliputian character and comedy studies; Daisy Sloan is a good Scotch character comedienne; and Richardson Taylor, the whistling ventriloquist, is very funny and popular. The Bioscope completes.

PAVILION THEATRE.—P., Mr. Frank Macnaghten; B. M., Mr. Joseph Lawrence; Mus. D., Mr. Fred Britcher.—The big turn here this week is the Italian illusionist, Signor Arvi, who is presenting his wonderful spectacular illusions, in which many beautiful women play a leading part. The whole performance is splendidly worked, and altogether the turn proves a most attractive and successful one. A really funny comedy duologue, entitled "The Sleeping Car," is being presented with the greatest success by John C. MacMahon and Ivy Du For. Other artistes who also appear with entertaining turns are Hersleb Bros., acrobatic comedians; King and King, the light comedian and the long comic; Rosa Hamel, in a humorous sketching and vocal act; Ernest Batting, character vocalist; and the Sisters Ward, duettists. The Bioscope completes.

EMPIRE.—Sole L., The New Bioscope Trading Co.; R. M., Mr. Charles R. Craig.—Ada Mawby, vocalist, and a change of pictures twice weekly, constitute a capital show here.

LEITH.

GAIETY.—P., Mr. F. R. Graham-Yooll; G. M., Mr. R. M. Stratmore.—This week (twice nightly): Dr. Walford Bodie, the bloodless surgeon; Wee Mona Burns, comedienne; Stave, musical cannibal; Dolly Robson; Albert E. Bodie, illusionist; Mlle. Vine, concertinist; the Four Markies, in comedy scena; and pictures.

LIMERICK.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Mr. George V. Fogerty; B. M., Mr. Harry Fogerty; Mus. C., Mme. Burdette.—Little Catrina Langbourne, violinist, and Mr. Herbert Langbourne, and pictures.

LINCOLN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—This week (twice nightly): On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, Ethel van Praagh and J. Edward Whitty's company present "Moths." On Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, "East Lynne." The casts include: Mr. A. Austin Leigh, Mr. J. Edward Whitty, Mr. Guy P. Ellis, Mr. B. Stuart Chedburn, Mr. John Corless, Mr. Harold Ford, Miss Flora Hastings, Miss Dorothy Dewhurst, Miss May Neilson, Miss Beatrice Hulment, Miss Audrey Annikin, and Miss Ethel van Praagh.

LIVERPOOL.

ROYAL COURT.—P., Messrs. Robert Arthur Theatres Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. F. W. Wyndham; G. M., Mr. George T. Minshull; A. M., Mr. Arthur Lawrence; Mus. D., Mr. Jullien H. Wilson.—"Tommy Tucker" is going along as merrily as ever. On Monday evening Miss Dorothy Ward, the principal boy, did not appear owing to slight indisposition, but Miss Dora Frank-Harvey took her place at short notice, and won great admiration.

SHAKESPEARE.—M. D., Mr. W. W. Kelly; A. M., Mr. John Gaffney; Mus. D., Mr. Frank Shea.—The pantomime "Jack Horner" still retains its hold upon the public. Miss Maidie Scott's latest song, "The naughty little bird in Nelly's hat," has caught on, and is going great.

ROTUNDA.—M., Mr. M. Montgomery; A. M., Mr. Fred Coles; Mus. D., Mr. F. Thompson.—Here this week Mr. G. Carlton Wallace's company have been giving "The Apple of Eden" before large and appreciative audiences. Miss Doris Gilham acted the rôle of the Queen of Slavonia with tact and discretion, her efforts gaining due recognition. Mr. Richard A. Greene is the Julian Hanbury, and to that capable artiste is given a large amount of approval. Other worthy supporters are Messrs. J. G. Grahame (King Ferdinand), Percy Ballard (Prince Nicola), Charlton Morton (Robert Bertram), W. S. Stevenson (General Pavlos), Henry Chalmers (Colonel Ferat), Miss Iris Trevarthen (Anna), Miss Evelyn Robson (Lady Hanbury), and Miss Gwendoline Verschoyle (Winifred Cresson). The play is splendidly mounted.

REPERTORY.—G. M., Mr. Basil Dean; B. M., Mr. T. J. Pigott; Mus. D., Mr. Joseph Smith.—There was a crowded and delighted audience on Monday night when a revival of "Strife" was given. Mr. Galsworthy's gripping play really founded the Repertory movement in Liverpool, a couple of years ago, when it made a marked impression. Consequently it was not surprising to find that its second presentation, for a run of twelve nights and two matinées, was received with unmistakable appreciation. At the final fall of the curtain the applause was so great that the manager, Mr. Basil Dean, under whose supervision the work was admirably put on, had to come in front, and express thanks to the enthusiastic gathering. All the numerous cast were deserving of the highest praise. Mr. C. M. Hallard's John Anthony was a remarkable example of fine acting; that particularly capable artiste, Mr. Lawrence Hanray, held everybody with his David Roberts; Miss Estelle Winwood, in the character of Enid Underwood, showed a charm and tenderness which captivated her audience; fine character studies were the directors, Edgar Anthony, Frederic Wilder, William Scantlebury, and Oliver Wanklin, portrayed by Messrs. Algernon Greig, J. H. Roberts, Wilfred E. Shine, and Reginald Hargreaves; Mr. Arthur K. Phillips played excellently as the Secretary, Henry Trench; Miss Eileen Thorndike made a pathetic Mrs. Roberts; Messrs. F. Cremlin and Norman McKeown were a couple of perfect workmen; Miss Beatrice Smith as Madge Thomas realised the dramatic spirit of that part; and thanks were also due to Messrs. J. A. Dodd (Jago) and Arthur Cleave (Simon Harness).

KELLY'S.—L., Mr. W. W. Kelly; A. M., Mr. Reginald Grant; Mus. D., Mr. J. A. Gardner.—The enterprising lessee of this popular place seems determined to continue his policy of giving the latest and best goods at popular prices. The result is that on Monday evening there was a crowded audience to watch with keen interest "A Butterfly on the Wheel," given in excellent style by Mr. Arthur Hardy's principal company. The powerful third act, depicting the divorce court, held the audience. Foremost was Miss Frances Titheradge, whose Peggy proved particularly pleasing, her effective acting in the witness-box making a great impression; Mr. Herbert Greville was excellent in the rôle of the counsel for the plaintiff; Mr. Harry Tyne did well as the judge; Mr. Cecil Humphreys undertook the rôle of Roderick Collingwood in effective manner; Mr. Douglas Greet was well to the front with his stirring Lord Ellerdine; Mr. O. Powis Griffiths did everything necessary with George Admaston; and Miss Daisy Cordell was the Lady Atwill.

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. George Manners; Asst. M., Mr. Arthur Hicks; Mus. D., Mr. George M. Saker.—Top of the bill this week are Yorke and Adams, Hebrew M.P.'s, whose explanation of the Insurance Act is a diverting piece of business; the Texas Tommy dancers from America present something original, and get rounds of applause; Mrs. W. T. Simmonds' company please greatly with their sketch, "The Heart of a Child"; Arthur Ferriss has some humorous character studies; as an equilibrist and head jumper, Alfred Taok shows remarkable powers; John and Maie Burke give an amusing vocal and instrumental turn, entitled "The Rag-time Soldier"; and others in the list are Chass Lewis, novelty ventriloquist; and Tom Purslow, comedian.

LYRIC.—L., Liverpool Lyric Theatre Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Henry C. Arnold; Mus. D., M. R. Klasse.—Dottridge and Longden's very funny pantomime, "Dick Whittington and His Cat," has been here this week pleasing large audiences. Miss Hetty Zillwood earned favour as Dick, singing and dancing very nicely; Mr. Arthur Holland proved a funny Alderman; Miss Minnie Muir neatly impersonated Alice; Doyle and Gibson provoked much laughter as the sailors; and Mr. Herbert Williams caused great fun in the part of the dame. Specialities are given by the Waldorf Troupe.

PAVILION.—P., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; R. A. M., Mr. George F. Slatter; Mus. D., Mr. Fred Braham.—Mr. Walter Howard's company have occupied the stage here this week with "The Lifeguardsman," large audiences being present. Mr. Ernest H. G. Cox as the Prince of Calvaria played with dignity and force; Miss Miriam Prichett very intelligently handled the trying part of the Princess; Hugo was ably interpreted by Mr. Charles Whitlock; some amusement was caused by the antics of the three aides-de-camp, capitally played by Messrs. Lionel Bute, Max Wakeman, and Melville Chiswell; Miss Elsie Garnham was successful as the mad prince, Philip; and Mr. J. G. Maine did well as Baron Strelzer.

ROYAL PALACE.—M., Mr. M. Montgomery; A. M., Mr. Frank O'Toole; Mus. D., Mr. G. Dibbert.—Here this week the Stock company have given "Monte Cristo," among the principals being Messrs. Harry Tresham (Edmund Dantes, prisoner, Joannes, Abbe Busoni, and Monte Cristo), Sydney Grant (Morcerf), John Davidson (Danglars), and Miss F. Melrose Millett (Mercedes).

OLYMPIA.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. E. W. James; Asst. M., Mr. D. Casey; Mus. D., Mr. Albert Moore.—That ever popular artiste, Gertie Gitana, is delighting big audiences here this week with her latest songs; La Pia finds immense favour by reason of her wonderful fire dances; Harry Bedford brings his newest songs, which are received with much laughter; the Excelsior Troupe of cyclists present a brilliant turn; Brown and Nevarro are dancers of exceptional ability; as a ventriloquist, Miss Mabel Sinclair shows high talent; and others who appear are Weston and Lynch, American comedy duo; and Francis and Alfred, very funny jugglers.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Walter de Frece; R. M., Mr. Walter Hassan; Mus. D., Mr. Frank Stokes.—Julian Rose, on top of the bill, is as funny as ever; Stanley Cooke and company go through a merry farce, "The Man from Mexico"; Nina Gordon, a versatile mimic at the piano, pleases greatly; the Max Franklin Troupe have a gymnastic novelty; some clever trick cycling, etc., is done by the Selbinis; and other turns are Lawrence Barclay, comedian; Christie Duo, in comedy and dancing; and Frederica's terriers.

LONGTON.

QUEEN'S.—P., Longton Theatre Co., Ltd.; G. M., Mr. H. Sheriff Howard.—This week (twice nightly): Chung-Ling-Soo, juggler; Mira Jenson, vocalist; Rall and Tando; Yazo; Geo. Maston; Victor Bros. Chung-Ling-Soo matinée, Saturday, 2.30. Next week: "Revenge."

LOUGHBOROUGH.

VINT'S ELECTRIC HIPPODROME.—L., Mr. Leon Vint; G. M., Mr. Arthur Brogden; R. M., Mr. Graham Hylton. — This week: The High-Davos company, acrobatic roller-skaters; the Lucas Trio, in character study, "Waiting for the Boats"; and Ella Dare, juvenile comedienne; and pictures.

LOWESTOFT.

MARINA.—P., Mr. B. Pareezer.—This week: "Red Riding Hood" is presented by Mr. Adolf Seebold's company.

HIPPODROME.—P., Mr. Geo. Gilbert.—This week; Pugilistic sketch, "Gretna Green," in which Jack Collinson and Jack Wayho appear; an entertaining episode, "Dear Old George"; "Humours of the Hunting Field," by Ascot and Dewey; Ben Jackson, Sisters Lloyd, &c., and pictures.

MACCLESFIELD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P. and M., Mr. W. K. Gatley.—This week: Messrs. C. Adolf Seebold and Mr. Matt Melrose's company present "Aladdin." The company includes: Miss Lalla Melrose, Miss R. Moya, Messrs. Alk and Perce Jerome, Miss May and Miss Nina Beichstein, Mr. Leslie Conway, Mr. Barrie Burns, Miss Renee Ashley, Mr. Fisher Jones, and Mr. Tom Maynard, &c. Next week: "No Mother to Guide Her."

MAIDENHEAD.

NEW THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—P., Mr. George Gude.—This week: "Lucky Miss Chance," by Messrs. Morrison and Ivory's company. The company includes: Messrs. Gus Danby, Frank Lester, Dudley Middleton, Charley Shepley, Victor V. Norreys, Freean Rode, Misses Amey Abercrombie, Maudi Sheila, Phyllis Spalding, Minnie Best, Cissie Best, Madge Best, Clara Best, Geraldine Verner.

MAIDSTONE.

PALACE.—P., T. S. Dickie and Co.; R. M., Mr. Ewart C. Potter.—This week: Rabottini, with his band; the McConnell Trio, in a musical sketch; Archie Pitt, comedian; Mr. Jack White and Co., in "What Her Husband Saw"; Nan Taylor, comedienne; Reveno and Revelle, acrobats; and Ella Roma, serio and dancer.

MANCHESTER.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—P., The United Theatres Co., Ltd.; A. M., Mr. George Lee; Mus. D., Mr. Chas W. Chambers.—This week (once nightly): Mr. George Edwardes's company in "The Sunshine Girl." T. M., Mr. George Gray. The company includes: Miss Phyllys le Grand, Miss Doris Deane, Miss Maisie Gould, Miss Lulu Fancourt, Miss Ada Holt, Miss Violet Hubbock, Miss Madge Quest, Miss Clarice Lovelace, Miss Peggy Nadine, Miss Gertrude Mansell, Miss Vi. Mallison, Miss Nancy Dale, Miss May Marton, Miss Phyllis Dare, Mr. W. H. Rawlins, Mr. Frank Hector, Mr. Paul Plunket, Mr. Hugh A. Henson, Mr. Owen Gassett, Mr. Herbert Cannon, Mr. George Danes, Mr. Frank Benjamine, Mr. Geoffrey Startin, and Mr. George Gregory. Matinée, Wednesday, 1.45. Next week: "The Dancing Mistress."

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—P., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; A. M., Mr. J. Brearley; Mus. D., Mr. J. Colton.—Mr. and Mrs. Chalmers Mackey are playing here this week in "Rollicking Rory" (three nights) and "The Wearin' o' the Green" (three nights). Mr. Chalmers Mackey as Rory in the first-named play has excellent scope for his humorous powers, which he utilises to the full; while Mrs. Chalmers Mackey as the heroine, Rosalee, fills the part with charm and sympathy. Mr. J. P. M'Bride as the outlawed gentleman, Desmond Fitzgerald, supplies the requisite heroic quality in capital style; and Mr. Charles M. Julian makes a good foil as the villainous Stephen D'Arcy. Many other parts are well played, and the piece goes well. In the second play Mr. Chalmers Mackey plays Barney O'Hea, and Mrs. Chalmers Mackey fills the rôle of Norah M'Crath.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; A. M., Mr. C. W. Meek; Mus. D., Mr. Edward Bleasdale.—Mr. Travis Green's company are appearing here in the Red Indian romantic play, "Queen of the Redskins." Laura Walker is well cast as Wahneetah, the title-rôle; Walter H. Wilson gives a strong and picturesque rendering of Bronco Bill; and clever work is done by Clarence Ibbotson as Sambo, a nigger. Others who contribute notably to the success are Caspar Middleton as George Lyndhurst and Phœbe Brady as Little Queenie, Wahneetah's child.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE. — P., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; A. M., Mr. J. Mason.—Fred Granville's Productions, Ltd., are presenting here the powerful realistic drama, "At the Mercy of the Mormons." The play has already made many local friends, and is adding to its popularity, big houses being the rule. The story is of Mormonism in California, and among a capable cast the chief exponents are Miss Ruby Loncraine and Mr. H. P. Sullivan.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—P., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; A. M., Mr. Edward M. Hamilton; Mus. D., Mr. C. H. Bayley.—We have here this week a welcome return visit of John Tilier's successful pantomime, "Sinbad the Sailor," which is drawing full houses twice nightly.

EMPIRE.—M. D., Mr. Oswald Stoll; A. M., Mr. Horace Cocke; Mus. C., Mr. R. Hardwick.—An attractive programme here this week features the Cowboy Jupiters, in their curious and amusing American cowboy mystery; Jack Lane, the Yorkshire rustic at the piano, who satirises rag-time humorously and effectively; and Coram, the ventriloquist, whose turn is much enjoyed. The Ten Loonies and their crazy comedy act with the usual success; Agnes Treacy, the Irish soprano, sings with great charm; and other capital turns are given by the Kirbys, burlesque entertainers; Fred Durant and Brother, in comedy business; and Di Lynn, an entertaining comedienne.

HIPPODROME. — M. D., Mr. Oswald Stoll; A. M., Mr. Nelson Barry; Mus. C., Mr. Alfred Haines.—Olga and the Diving Norins head the bill here in a most attractive and graceful act; and Ruth Maitland and company are seen in a new sketch

ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

Great satisfaction with the past year's work of the Actors' Benevolent Fund was expressed at the Annual General Meeting, which was held at His Majesty's Theatre yesterday afternoon, Sir Herbert Tree presiding. Others present were Sir George Alexander, Mr. Cyril Maude, Mr. Harry Nicholls, Mr. J. D. Beveridge, Mr. Bassett Roe, Mr. M. R. Morand, Mr. Fewlass Llewellyn, Mr. A. E. George, Mr. Lionel Rignold, Mr. Charles Cruikshanks, Mr. Cecil King, Mr. Clarence Derwent, Mr. E. H. Bull, Mr. P. De Pinto, Mr. J. H. Mote, Mr. T. P. Haynes, Mr. W. E. Gehe, Mr. Charles Gay, Mr. J. D. Langton, Rev. C. E. L. Wright, Mrs. A. P. Ledward, and Miss Clara Jecks, and Mr. C. I. Coltson (secretary).

REPORT AND BALANCE-SHEET.

The secretary read the Committee's report, which stated:—

The Committee, in submitting the accounts for the past year, have to report that the sum distributed in allowances, gifts, and loans amounted to £4,306 9s. 4d. The weekly allowances to old and deserving members of the theatrical calling abed a sum of £2,600, and in order that this greatly needed assistance may be continued during the present year the Committee now earnestly beg all those interested in the Fund's work to use every possible effort to increase the amount of the Actors' Saturday Collection, which is now being made in every theatre and touring company in the United Kingdom.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS.
FROM JAN. 1 TO DEC. 31, 1912.

Dr.

RECEIPTS.	£ s. d.	£. s. d.
To Balance on hand Jan. 1, 1912		1,911 5 2
ditto ditto "Betty" Fund		2 12 3
„ Donations and Subscriptions, including the Theatre Box Collections		765 17 10
„ Bequest, George Grossmith		50 0 0
„ Proceeds of Benefits, &c.: Actors' Sword Club Matinée at St. James's Theatre	90 4 0	
Liverpool Theatrical Gala	20 0 0	
Charity Matinée, Comedy Theatre	15 0 0	
Matinée, London Boy Scouts'. St. James's Theatre	10 0 0	
Balance Mrs. Carte's Testimonial by Managers	10 0 0	
Sunderland Charity Carnival	5 0 0	
Sundries	1 13 6	151 17 6
„ Covent Garden Theatre Fund		1,170 12 4
„ The "Betty" Fund		239 4 8
„ Rose Norrey's Fund		22 17 6
„ Autographs of Actors and actresses		35 6 3
„ Interest on investments: Sir Charles Wyndham's Gift	70 14 8	
Helen Faucit Endowment	60 8 0	
Other investments	795 11 11	926 14 7
„ Net proceeds to date of 22nd Annual Dinner, H.H. the Duke of Teck in the Chair	2,850 10 2	
„ Less Invested as the Lily Hanbury Endowment, in Rio de Janeiro 5 per Cent. Loan Bonds	1,100 0 0	1,750 10 2
„ Arrears on last year's Dinner, the Right Hon. F. E. Smith, K.C., M.P., in the Chair	„	139 10 6

NOTE

Investments held:	£ s. d.
2½ per cent. Consols	1,490 0 0
3 per cent, India Stock	3,201 2 11
3½ per cent. do. A. Account	20,418 4 11
3½ per cent. do. B. Account	1,725 19 2
Rio de Janeiro 5 per cent. Loan Bonds	1,100 0 0
	£27,935 7 0

		£7,166 8 9

C. I. COLTSON,
Secretary.

Adam-street, Adelphi, W.C.

PAYMENTS.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
By Grants and Allowances		3,246 9 10
„ ditto ditto "Betty" Fund		238 0 0
„ Loans	786 19 6	
Less repaid	105 9 6	681 10 0
„ Subscription, Ventnor Hospital		35 0 0
„ Salaries		535 2 0
„ Rent of Offices		90 0 0
„ Office Furniture		4 13 11
„ Printing and Stationery		26 3 6
„ Advertising		49 5 0
„ Post Office Telephone Co.		9 0 0
„ District Messenger Call..		1 1 0
„ Insurance		0 14 6
„ Miscellaneous Expenses..		48 0 9
„ Housekeeper's Expenses (including Coals, &c.)..		25 19 0
„ Cash: At Bankers on Deposit	1,500 0 0	
„ Current Account	645 10 0	
„ Rose Norrey's Account	22 17 6	
„ "Betty" Fund	3 16 11	
In hands of Secretary	3 4 10	2,175 9 3
		£7,166 8 9

Audited and found correct. Westcott, Maskall and Co., Chartered Accountants, London, Jan. 14, 1913. 29 and 30, Broad Street-avenue, E.C.

The chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, said: I must congratulate our profession and the Actors' Benevolent Fund on the fact that this is the best year we have ever had. It is indeed pleasing to think that the very large sum of £3,000 was obtained at the annual dinner under the honoured chairmanship of His Highness the Duke of Teck. This result has been mainly due, as you know, to two contributions; one from Sir Henry Lucy, who is honourably known in the profession of journalism, which is so closely linked with our own. Sir Henry Lucy is popular among all who know him, and beloved by his intimates, and I am sure we are all very grateful to him for this generous contribution to our cause. (Cheers.) The other amount, £1,100, is from Mr. Guedalla, the husband of the late Lily Hanbury. I am sure it will be a satisfaction to all who have known her, and those who have only known of her, that her dear name should be thus perpetuated by means of this admirable charity. There is one other item that I must refer to, and that is the fact that ninety-eight aged actors and actresses have received regular allowances to the tune of £2,500 in the course of the past year. It is to be regretted, perhaps, that those allowances cannot be perpetual allowances. They are renewed every three months on the application of the recipients. We have all heard something about the King George Pension Fund, and we know that His Majesty has very graciously associated himself with our calling in consenting to attend a performance given annually at a theatre in its behalf. It is well to mention in connection with these regular pensions that they will not in any way interfere with this splendid charity, the Actors' Benevolent Fund. I daresay we all have one general cause at heart, and no doubt these two funds will work hand in hand. We all ought to be proud of the result of this year. We know that this charity is administered in a manner which calls forth the gratitude of those in our profession, and I would make an appeal to every member of the profession to give, and give generously, during the present year. I should like to add my thanks to Sir George Alexander, who has set so admirable an example in handing over 10 per cent. of the receipts of the performance given at the St. James's Theatre recently, and I hope other theatres will follow suit. (Cheers.)

Sir George Alexander seconded the resolution. He said in regard to the 10 per cent. given for a performance at his theatre to the Actors' Benevolent Fund, that did not represent the whole amount given, because those who gave the performances were anxious that not only the Actors' Benevolent Fund, but other reputable charities connected with their calling, should benefit. The performance was given for the Medical Benefit Fund. The theatrical profession owed the medical profession a deep debt of gratitude, but the Medical Benefit Fund said they felt they were under a certain obligation to the theatrical profession, and proved it by handing over £50 to the Actors' Benevolent Fund, £50 to Mr. Cyril Maude for his Fund, and £50 to the Royal General Theatrical Fund. (Cheers.) He hoped managers both in London and the country would follow the example he had set. Sir Squire Bancroft was giving a reading of "The Christmas Carol" for the benefit of the Middlesex Hospital shortly at the St. James's, and he would take good care to get a percentage on that for their charities. Sir Herbert Tree had spoken in grateful remembrance of Mrs. Guedalla, that charming actress who had been associated both with himself and Sir Herbert during her career. He hoped other widowers anxious to honour the memory of a deceased wife would follow that example. Perhaps ladies left well off would be equally kind. Only the other day he received for the Royal General Theatrical Fund a £200 legacy from Mrs. Warden, of Belfast. (Cheers.) It was refreshing to think that people making money out of the theatrical profession remembered their charities, when they no longer needed the money in this world.

The resolution was unanimously carried. A vote of thanks to the committee was proposed by Mr. Fewlass Llewellyn, who eulogised the work done by the members, who had to undergo the pain of giving so little and the bitterness at times of giving none. If the giving of a cup of water brought such blessings, how much more appreciated would be the work of those gentlemen who freely gave their valuable time.

The resolution was seconded by Mr. Bassett Roe, who said the committee had to deal with cases of misfortune and sad distress which required patient, sympathetic attention in order to alleviate. Only those behind the scenes of theatrical life knew the tragedies enacted in real life as well as on the stage.

The vote of thanks was heartily carried, and was acknowledged by Mr. M. R. Morand, who said the work was neither cheery nor easy, but they were rewarded by the pleasure of knowing they were doing good work. He could assure them the funds were usefully and carefully administered. He referred to the loss the Fund had sustained in the death of the Rev. Arthur Brinckman.

Mr. A. E. George proposed votes of thanks to Hon. Standing Counsel, Mr. J. Safford, to the Hon. Solicitors, Messrs. J. Mote and Son, to Hon. Auditors, Messrs. W. Westcott, Maskall, and Co.; also to the Hon. Physicians and Dentists, Drs. G. Stoker, F. Horton Villanueva, C. Atkin Swan, R. P. Middlemist, Hubert J. Wooldridge, P. de Pinto; and their re-election.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Lionel Rignold and adopted.

Mr. J. H. Mote and Mr. P. De Pinto acknowledged the votes of thanks and expressed pleasure at their re-election.

In the absence of Sir Charles Wyndham, who he said was travelling in regions where the fog did not reach him, the Chairman proposed the election of Sir George Alexander, who had kindly consented to act as trustee in the place of the lamented Edward Terry. It would be an inestimable advantage to have Sir George in that position, for his eagle eye could take in three columns at a glance. (Laughter.) He must confess that when he himself saw three columns he felt sometimes inclined to pull them down. The Chairman also seconded the motion, which was enthusiastically adopted.

Sir George Alexander, in response, said Sir Herbert Tree had referred to columns of figures. He would remind them that "where ignorance was bliss it were folly to be wise." (Laughter.) He would endeavour to follow worthily in the footsteps of his dear friend, Edward Terry.

The Chairman also proposed the re-election of Sir Charles Wyndham as president of the Fund, a position for which none could be more worthy.

Mr. Harry Nicholls seconded the resolution, which was carried amid applause.

A hearty vote of thanks to the Chairman, proposed by Mr. Charles Cruikshanks and seconded by the Rev. C. Wright, was accorded, and Sir Herbert Tree, in response, said he would say one last word, and that in appreciation of the work of their honoured secretary. (Applause.)

The King and Queen, Queen Alexandra, Princess Victoria, and Prince Arthur of Connaught witnessed the performance of "Rosenkavalier" at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, on Saturday.

The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd., which owns the Theatre Royal, Rochdale, has acquired the Palace, Rochdale, which is at present leased by the Standard Enterprises Co. The new company commences management on Monday, but the nature of the performances to be given has not yet been definitely decided.

A promising programme has been arranged by Miss Floyd Ariston and Mrs. Albert Bradshaw for their vaudeville entertainment to-night at the King's Hall, Covent Garden. A long list of well-known artistes are giving their services to benefit the Charity (The Children's Dinner Fund of the L.V.A.), including H.H. Princess Irene de Avierino Wiszniewska, Lady Rushout, Mrs. Paul Bock, Signor Belpassi, Mr. Thornley-Dodge, Mme. Kherla Kinuk, and Miss Henriquette Maude in her quick-change impressions. Mrs. Albert Bradshaw will produce her one-act play, "The Experiment," in which she will appear supported by Miss Ruth Wallace and Mr. Frank Hill. Mr. Eric Albury will produce a new farcical episode by H. G. Willis, the action taking place on a houseboat while the "moon is at the full." A second novelty will be an American farce by S. Vance, performed for the first time in England, produced by Mrs. Waldemar Leverton, this being followed by the latest evolution of the Révue, entitled "The Masque of St. Valentine," composed and produced by Mr. Neil Erskine, and arranged by Miss Floyd Ariston, who will appear as the Spirit of Rag-time, supported by Mrs. F. H. Skrine, Mrs. Hayden Coffin, Miss Ella Ross, Mr. Adrian Gordon, Mr. Jose Carlton, Miss Esmé Goodman, Miss Dora Gibbon, Miss Alma Hagen, Miss Mollie Stoll, Miss Lester, Miss Mary Pitcairn, Mr. Leslie Baerselmann, Mr. McHenry Thomas, Mr. Vernon Sharp, Mr. Kurthoff, Mr. Ben Hawes Wilson, Mr. Arthur Eagles, Mr. A. A. Lindo, etc.

FUNERAL OF EDMUND TEARLE.

The late Mr. Edmund Tearle was buried at Brighton on Saturday. The demands of their calling—Saturday was a matinée day—kept many of deceased's theatrical friends from attending the funeral, but they sent expressions of sympathy by letter, telegram, and cable, the communications received by the widow and his daughter and by Mr. A. Edgar Ramsdale, his manager, being very numerous. Those who sent such expressions included:—

Mrs. Byles (Miss E. Tearle), daughter, from Pretoria; Mr. George Tearle (son of the late Mr. Osmond Tearle); Mr. Charles Tearle (brother); Miss Clara Armitage, Miss Constantia Brookes, Mr. Geoffrey Broughton, Mr. Barlow Borland (New York), Mr. F. Moir Bussy, Mr. Rollo Balmain, Miss Beaumont (Huddersfield), Miss Laura Mena de Bieux (Ceylon), Mr. Beaumont and family (Huddersfield), Mr. and Mrs. Edward Compton, Miss Campbell (Mrs. Grogan), Mr. and Mrs. Sydney Compton, Miss Evelyn Carleton, Mr. W. O. Carr, Mr. Vernon Crabtree, Miss Edith Colona, Mr. J. Cockran (Edinburgh), Mr. Jonathan Dewhurst, Mr. Desprez (Editor "The Era"), Mrs. Wallace Davidson (Manchester), Dramatic Lodge of Freemasons (Liverpool), Mr. Ebbett (Falkirk), Miss Mary Ford, Mrs. Ford, Miss Vera George (Lincs.), Mr. Edmund Hamson (Leeds), Mr. and Mrs. Hart (Woburn), Mr. and Mrs. Fred Hart, Mr. Hogan (Newport, Mon.), Mr. Charles Harrington and family, Mr. J. Court Howard, Mr. and Mrs. Isherwood, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Jefferson (Glasgow), Mr. William J. Jones (Hove), Miss Josolyne, Mrs. B. Jones (Coleraine, Ireland), Miss May Kilpack, Mr. George Kent (Town Clerk of Longton, Staffs., and director of Queen's Theatre), Mr. Fawcett Lomax, Mrs. Lewns, Mrs. Loxton and family (Redditch), Mr. and Mrs. James Leslie, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. J. Miller, Mr. Hugh Moss (Savage Club), Mrs. Mathen, Mr. Clifford Marle, Mr. Marshall (Edinburgh), Mr. and Mrs. Maclaren (Doncaster), Mr. Harry Niel (Liverpool), Mr. and Mrs. James Skea, Mr. and Mrs. Parlby (Leicester), Mr. John Pollock (Kilmarnock), Mr. Joynson Powell, Mr. Tom Preston (Liverpool), Miss Ray Parry, Rev. Mother and ladies of St. Thomas' of Villanova, Mr. Leonard Rayne (South Africa), Mr. and Mrs. Ross (Inverness), Mr. and Mrs. Rayner, Miss Madge Raper, Miss Adelaide Ross, Mr. Kauffman Spier and family, Dr. and Mrs. Tebb (Hampstead), Miss Rhoda Townsend, Mr. and Mrs. Talboys (Kilmarnock), Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Wood (Kilmarnock), Mr. and Mrs. Charles Williams (North Shields), Mr. Charles Leveson Lane, Mr. Fisher (Edgbaston), Mr. and Mrs. Henry Doughty, Mr. Calder O'Brien, Messrs. A. and J. Wright (King's Theatre, Greenock), Mr. Charles R. Stone, Miss Laura Hansen, Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Harrison (Porto Maurizio, Italy), Mr. and Mrs. Denis Hogan (Vintimille, Italy), Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Watson, and Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Burrows.

The interment took place at the Extra-Mural Cemetery, where the service was conducted by the Vicar of Brighton and the Rev. W. Marshall (Vicar of St. Patrick's, Hove). The mourners were: Mrs. Edmund Tearle (widow), Miss Roma Tearle (daughter), Miss Alice Tearle (sister), Mr. Barlow Borland (manager, London and New York), Mr. Edward Compton, Miss Evelyn Carlton, Mr. Russell Davis, Mr. Arthur Jefferson, Mr. Fawcett Lomax (all three latter of Mr. Tearle's company), Mr. Peter Millar (another of the company), and Mr. A. Edgar Ramsdale (manager). The coffin bore the inscription: "Edmund Tearle; died Feb. 4, 1913; aged 56 years." There was a great number of beautiful wreaths, including tributes from Mrs. Edmund Tearle, Miss Roma Tearle, Sister Alice, Mr. and Mrs. Burrows and family, Mr. Edward Compton, Miss Evelyn Carleton, Miss May Carrybell, Mr. Russell Davis, Miss Mary Ford, Miss Edith How, Mr. and Mrs. Holgate, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Jefferson, Mr. Ogilvy Keith, Miss Octavia Kenmore, Mr. and Mrs. James Leslie, Mr. Lee, Mr. George Rayne, Mr. Leonard Rayne, Dr. and Mrs. Tebb, Mr. Arthur Talboys, Mr. Alfred Talboys, and Mr. and Mrs. Walls and family. The service was most impressively rendered by Canon Hoskin, M.A., the Vicar of Brighton, the lesson being eloquently read by the Rev. Walter Marshall, M.A., Vicar of St. Patrick's, Hove. The wreaths included a cross of pure mimosa covering the whole of the coffin—the widow's tribute—and the remaining wreaths, which were most beautiful, included a harp, an anchor, a magnificent laurel wreath, with floral knot, and many crosses, sheaths, etc. The weather, which had been previously wet and miserable, had completely changed, and the mourning procession wound up the picturesque paths of the beautiful burying ground in a glorious sunshine. The deceased was laid to rest in an ivy-lined grave within view of the sea and the Downs.

CROUCH END HIPPODROME.

On Monday, Feb. 10, the Play, entitled
"THE WALLS OF JERICHO."

A strong attraction is provided this week for patrons of the Crouch End Hippodrome by the engagement of Mr. Ernest E. Norris and company in "The Walls of Jericho." This well-known play, by Alfred Sutro, has proved a refreshing change from the usual variety, and when Mr. Norris made his début on Monday as Jack Frobisher, he was accorded a hearty reception. Produced once nightly, large audiences have proved the rule. As Jack Frobisher, Mr. Norris gave an admirable study; while Miss Ray Parry was excellent as Lady Atalea Frobisher; Mr. Bruce Allen made a capital Marquis of Steventon; Miss Gertrude Le Sage was well placed as Lady Westerby. The humorous element is ably introduced by Mr. Edwin A. Wheeler as Hankey Bannister, and Miss May Norris as Lady Lucy Derenham. The cast is completed by Mr. R. Watt, Mr. Chris. A. Olgar, Mr. Jack Helier, Mr. Arthur Wilson, Mr. C. Dashwood, Mr. Frederick Valder, Miss Agnes Bruce Smith, Miss Beryl Paul, Miss Mary Kingsley, Miss Marjorie Clutterbuck, and Miss May Hobson.

PANTOMIME WEDDINGS.

"Marriages are made in heaven," says the old proverb, but pantomime is also to be held responsible for many a match. Twelve weeks (or should we say *thirteen*) of constant association with each other naturally afford opportunity for "eligible parties" to become better acquainted, and there is no trouble during a long run in complying with the residential qualification. Be that as it may, the most amusing aspect of the case is the fierce delight that the members of the audience take in arranging suitable matches among the principals before the part is many weeks old. Glasgow has had its full share of this rare and refreshing game during the present winter, and at the Royal, Grand, and Princess's the gossipers have been busy "marrying and giving in marriage" with more zeal than discretion. At the Royal, in particular, several of the principals are greeted nightly with loud cries from the gallery of "Hard Up" (the Glasgow way of demanding largesse at weddings, just as they say "Pour Out" in Edinburgh, and in Texas no doubt they say "Hands Up!"). To go boldly and demand the intentions of the various parties concerned is a task that might even appal a newspaper man, so perhaps it may be better to emulate that famous politician of pre-historic times, who said, "Wait and see!"

THE BLACKBURN THEATRE FIRE.

The above shows the ruined stage, seen from the wings. Mr. Harry Lyons, the licensee and manager, endeavoured to keep open with a picture programme. He opened on the Tuesday night, February 4, and has continued since, but now finds that the smoke, water, &c., caused by this unfortunate fire has so affected the theatre that it is wisest to "shut down," and he will do so after to-night. The rebuilding, &c., will take some months.

The Colonial Secretary and the Speaker of the House of Commons have both witnessed Mr. Stanley Houghton's play, "Trust the People," at the Garrick, and have warmly congratulated Mr. Arthur Bourchier on the accuracy of the political and electioneering details. The Colonial Secretary wrote to Mr. Bourchier:—". . . . I felt rather like a 'busman who, having a day off, went to drive on the 'bus of a friend! I sit for a Lancashire constituency and I can therefore appreciate how admirable is the election scene." Trust the dramatist!

A special committee, consisting of the Rev. Stewart Headlam (chairman), Lady Gomme, Mrs. C. C. Stopes, Dr. Israel Gollancz, Mr. William Poel, Mr. Holford Knight, and Mr. Allan Gomme (hon. secretary), has been formed for the purpose of arranging the erection of a tablet in St. Leonard's Church, Shoreditch, and of a seat in the church garden to the memory of the following Elizabethan actors, who are recorded in the parish registers to be buried there: Will Somers, Henry VIII.'s jester (d. 1560); Richard Tarlton, Queen Elizabeth's famous clown and possibly Shakespeare's "Yorick" (d. 1588); James Burbage, the builder of the first English playhouse (d. 1597); Richard Burbage, the original impersonator of many of Shakespeare's characters (d. 1618-19); Cuthbert Burbage, Gabriel Spenser, William Sly, Richard Cowley, and others. Mr. W. H. Ansell will be the architect. It is estimated that the cost of the memorial will be about £250, and all who are interested in the project are asked to contribute towards the amount. Subscriptions should be sent to Lady Gomme, 20, Marlborough-place, St. John's Wood, N.W.

BOY SCOUTS AT "DRAKE."

By invitation of Sir Herbert Tree, who takes a keen interest in organisations connected with boys, 1,500 members of the various London divisions of the Boy Scouts visited His Majesty's Theatre on the afternoon of the 7th inst., and witnessed the performance of the patriotic play, "Drake." The boys lined up in Charles-street outside the theatre, wearing their uniforms and headed by a band. Before entering the theatre Sir Herbert Tree and General Jeffreys, chief commissioner for the London district, inspected the Scouts. The entire theatre was placed at the disposal of the boys, who were in charge of Mr. Barralet, the organising secretary, and everyone connected with the performance gave their services free.

The boys crammed the theatre from the front row of the stalls to the back row of the gallery, and there were even fourteen in a box. The performance was received with tremendous enthusiasm, and the cheers were terminated by means of scoutmasters' whistles. At the close of the play, when the company were assembled on the stage, two scouts presented bouquets to Miss Phyllis Neilson-Terry and Miss Amy Brandon Thomas. A vote of thanks was proposed by Col. de Burgh, and seconded by General Jeffreys. Three cheers were given in scout fashion.

Sir Herbert Tree, in reply, said it had been a great pleasure to him and a great pleasure to the ladies and gentlemen who had insisted on acting for nothing (laughter), to know that they had enjoyed themselves. If the day was in any sense memorable to them, it would be a red-letter day to him. He was proud to have given the public a play which had been so inspiring and which he believed had helped to strengthen that spirit of patriotism which was so strong in England to-day, but which perhaps needed a little spur. This would be the performance which would give the company most pleasure during the run of the play. He was glad to think that they had been able to contribute in so... way to give pleasure to those who belonged to a movement which he believed was the finest which had taken place in England for many a year. He was proud to say that General Baden-Powell had for many years been his friend, and he would send him a very long and expensive telegram to Algiers. (Laughter.) He hoped the boys would grow up brave, strong, and good men of whom England might feel proud.

THE "PELICAN" CAKE TAKEN BY MISS DOROTHY WARD.

On Friday night (7th) the "Pelican" cake, which had been won by Miss Dorothy Ward (as first announced in the "Wednesday Era") with a total vote of 21,504, was presented to her at the Royal Court Theatre by Councillor Josephs, of Liverpool.

Miss Ward had just concluded her song, "My heart is with you to-night," when the cake was brought on to the stage and Councillor Josephs, in an excellent speech, made the presentation. He referred to Miss Ward's work among the poor of the city, work which had endeared her to all with whom she came in contact. The packed house—for the Royal Court has been doing tremendous business—certainly showed their appreciation of Miss Ward, who was obviously affected by the demonstration when she said a few words in reply.

Later Miss Ward and Mr. Shaun Glenville, whose reputation can never fall below the highest watermark, entertained a select party of friends at supper at the Adelphi.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC.

On Saturday afternoon, Feb. 8, Mr. Daniel Melsa and Mlle. Sophie Barrand gave their concert in conjunction with the New Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Mr. Landon Ronald. This was the occasion of the début of Mlle. Sophie Barrand, who has a very sympathetic and pleasing voice and good presence. She sang several songs and gave the "Chanson du XVIII. Siècle" (Duparc) in a very intelligent manner with good pronunciation. She was well received and heartily applauded. Mr. Melsa was heard in the violin Concerto D major, Op. 77 (Brahms). He has great command of his instrument, and produces a good, clear tone, and the shakes were perfectly even. He also played in the Concerto E major, Op. 64 (Mendelssohn), the Allegro Molto Vivace being given with great brilliancy. At times he was a little overpowered by the orchestra. Mr. Melsa is to appear again at the Royal Academy Concert Hall this afternoon. The New Symphony Orchestra had the able conductorship of Mr. Landon Ronald, which secured a fine performance of the overture "Fingal's Cave" (Mendelssohn). Miss Sophie Barrand was also very successful in "La Folie" ("Hamlet") (Thomas). It is a difficult and trying composition, but Miss Barrand was equal to the occasion. The concert was well attended. Mr. Charlton Keith presided at the piano.

The Council of the Little French Theatre now includes the Countess of Wemyss, Muriel Countess De La Warr, Lord Willoughby de Broke, the Hon. Mrs. Alfred Lyttelton, Sir Edgar Speyer, Sir George Frampton, Sir Henry J. Wood, Sir Herbert Tree, Sir George Alexander, Sir Squire Bancroft, Sir John Hare, Sir Arthur Pinero, Mr. Arthur Bourchier, Mr. John Galsworthy, and Mr. Arnold Bennett. Mr. Philip Carr, at 8, North-terrace, South Kensington, will be glad to give information about subscriptions to the performances, and to hear from French artistes who would take part in the performances. Many of our leading actors speak French fluently; and there was once a memorable revival of Augiére's "L'Aventurière" given at the old Prince of Wales' in 1880, in which Sir Herbert (then Mr.) Tree, Miss Geneviève Ward, and others took part.

In 1755 David Garrick spent an enormous sum of money on the preparation of a gorgeous spectacle, entitled "The Chinese Festival," which was eventually produced on a magnificent scale. It was represented for three nights to the public disapproval, on the third of which the benches were torn up, the actors driven from the stage, and a great part of the scenery destroyed. Some few nights after this riot, Garrick appeared in the part of Archer, and was unanimously called upon to beg pardon of the audience for his late production. Naturally his indignation was aroused by this grave injustice; he had suffered an immense pecuniary loss, and undergone the heaviest inflictions of outrage for a production of tasteful splendour. Smarting with injustice he stepped on to the stage, and having stated the injury his fortune had sustained, assured them he was above want, superior to insult, and unless permitted to discharge his duty to the best of his ability, would never appear on the boards again. The audience was so struck by the firmness of his demeanour, and the propriety of his appeal, that they immediately burst into applause with a strong testimony against the rioters in favour of the spirited manager.

For GOUT, GRAVEL, RHEUMATISM, Etc.,
DRINK
VICHY-CÉLESTINS
Can be used with Light Wines, Spirits or Milk.
AT ALL CHEMISTS, WINE MERCHANTS, STORES, HOTELS, Etc.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

SUPPER AND BALL.

A joyous gathering crowded the Holborn Restaurant in the early hours of Saturday morning when the annual ball of the Actors' Association was in full swing. The attendance was not so large as that of the previous year, but it reached nearly 300, and included many influential members of the profession, as well as of the general public, who took advantage of the opportunity of seeing the stars of the stage twinkling in an unaccustomed sphere.

Sir Herbert Tree, as he was fain to admit, had been brought back from Russia especially to preside at the supper, where he had Lady Tree on his left and Miss Marie Löhr on his right. Included in the gathering were also Mr. Val Prinsep, Miss Felicity Tree, Mr. and Mrs. C. Hayden Coffin, Mr. and Mrs. Mortimer, Mr. J. Fisher White and Mrs. Fisher White, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Workman, Mr. and Mrs. W. Devereux, Mr. Clarence Derwent, Mr. Frank J. Arlton, Mrs. Carl Rosa, Mr. Austin Melford, Miss Phyllis Broughton, Miss Phyllis Relph, Miss Mary Relph, Miss Elizabeth Dexter, Miss Bateman, Miss Norah Mahone, Mr. Kuettner, Mr. Tom Pitt, Mr. Richard Lane, Dr. W. Fedde Fedden, Miss Clara Jecks, Mr., Mrs., and Miss Bransby Williams, Miss Vita Spencer, Mr. C. F. Collings, Mr. Duncan Young, Miss May Young, Mr. Arthur Dennis, Mr. W. and Mrs. Giffard, Mr. and Mrs. Maynard, Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Mote, Miss Helen Cunningham, Miss Gladys Cunningham, Mr. and Mrs. Sid Jousiffe, Mr. and Mrs. John Essex, Miss Monica Marshall, Miss May Lehmann, Miss Violet Essex, Mr. Arthur Wood, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Coutts, Mr. Gerald Lee, Mr. Eugen Sandow, Mr. S. T. Cox, Mr. Sinclair Clark, Mr. and Mrs. Clifton Alderson, Mr. Wyn Weaver, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Windermere, Mr. Fredk. James, Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Hatherley, Miss Clare Manifield, Miss Beatrice Chester, Miss Lucy Sibley, Dr. and Mrs. Litchfield, Miss Clarice Vernon, Miss Cicely Villiers, Miss Kate Curtis, Mr. Arthur Hardine, Miss Jefferson Cohn, Mons. and Mme. Gustave, Miss Marie Gustave, Miss Hélène Gustave, Major and Mrs. Molyneux, Mrs. Synge-Hutchinson, Captain and Mrs. Ffloyd, Mr. and Mrs. E. Abrahams, Colonel Ffrench, Mr. and Mrs. F. L. Villiers, Mr. Jones and Miss Finch, Mr. C. and Master Essex, Colonel and Miss Barwood, Mr. and Mrs. Capel, Mr. Frank Cartwright, Mr. F. Steel, Miss Bruce, Mr. Frank C. Esmond, Mr. J. H. Keeling, Mr. and Miss Jacobson, Captain Burrows, Miss Florence Wood, Miss M. Lumley, Mr. Cecil Geralditz, Miss Lightburne, Mr. F. Agar, Miss Kitty Cartaret, Mr. W. Hubert, Miss Marie Dupuir, Miss May Conrade, Mr. Alec Buchanan, Captain J. H. Bancroft, Mr. B. Houtin, Miss Iris White, Mr. James Blakeley, and Mr. Walter Cross. Mr. John Mortimer (chairman of the Committee) and Mr. Duncan Young (secretary of Association) are to be congratulated on a most successful evening.

Sir George Alexander sent a message regretting his inability to be present, and the following wire was received from Mr. Cyril Maude: "I am so sorry none of us can be with you to-night. My wife is away in the country, and I have been very seedy for the last ten days, and obliged to go home after the performance to rest as much as possible. All good wishes for great success."

The toast was given by the chairman, Mr. Hayden Coffin singing the solo with artistic expression.

SIR HERBERT TREE'S SPEECH.

The Chairman received an ovation when he rose to propose the toast of "The Actors' Association." He said: My speech will, at all events, have the merit of brevity, for I may not detain you with my ponderous words, because I am sure your light feet will want to be on the ballroom floor. It is right that on an occasion like this we should be light-hearted and convivial. I will endeavour to be light-hearted (laughter), and I am sure you are all convivial. It is extraordinary how the habit comes of rising to one's feet and thinking on one's feet, but not always saying what one thinks. The other day I had to say what I thought on my feet in three languages, and that was in Moscow, the place from which I have just retreated. (Laughter.) My holiday has been just a week-end. I came back to England owing to a telegram from my business-manager, who wired that my presence was required in London. It was in order that I might make a speech here to-night (applause), although they withheld that information from me at the time. I am delighted to be among my friends and address to you a few halting words. Remember this—your President has been practically making a tour round the world in the interests of the Actors' Association. I have heard nothing up to the present of any contribution from the Association towards the expenses of the tour. (Laughter.) But, ladies and gentlemen, I am of a very sanguine temperament.

AN ACTORS' THEATRE.

One interesting thing was my visit to the Moscow Art Theatre. They have a wonderful theatre there which should interest the Actors' Association. We talk of a National Theatre; they have a theatre there which is run by the actors—a very remarkable achievement. Yes, it is the actors who run this, what is practically a National Theatre, and the public support it. The actor or member of the stage staff who has been ten years in that theatre is interested in it—that is, so many shares are allotted to him according to his years of service. That is my ideal of a National Theatre, because it belongs to the actors. Of course, it is the actors alone who make the theatre, not the contributions of the public. Salvation only comes from within in any art, and especially that of the theatre. The actor in this theatre might play only once in six months, but he is quite content to take his salary and occupy his leisure with what is equivalent to golf with us.

THE KING'S PATRONAGE.

I would like to mention one thing to-night in proposing the health of the Actors' Association, whose affairs, you will perceive, I have carefully avoided, because I am sure Mr. Devereux, who is to respond, will overburden you with detail. His Majesty the King has allied himself most graciously with our profession. (Hear, hear.) The Gala Performance which took place at His Majesty's Theatre had a splendid financial result, and his Majesty was so gracious as to allow the proceeds of that entertainment to be devoted to a fund to be called the King George Pension Fund. I will be very precise in regard to this. His Gracious Majesty has consented that this shall form the nucleus of a fund to be called the King George Pension Fund, the object of which—and I am quoting what is really approved—is to provide annuities for British actors and actresses who have rendered such services to the profession as to merit recognition, or who, through altered circumstances, are in a position to require such assistance. It is *our* fund, because it is intended that we, the acting profession, should be able to confer upon our brothers and sisters who serve their art well the distinction of giving them a grant. We are very proud that our King should have thus associated himself with our calling. He has also been pleased to approve a suggestion that each year a performance shall be given in one West End theatre or another for the same purpose. The next performance, as I daresay you have heard, will take place at Sir George Alexander's theatre, the St. James's. Each year one of these performances will take place, and, more than that, their Majesties the King and Queen have intimated their intention of attending personally.

THE OLD ART AND THE NEW.

It is well that actors and actresses should aim at being genial and have comradeship among themselves. If our calling teaches us anything, it teaches generosity and comradeship, and I am very pleased to know that we entertain that feeling. I feel surprised lately to find that there has been a somewhat different note struck. I have been travelling all over the world, as I say, in the interests of the A.A., through France, Germany, Italy, America, and Russia, and I heard a great deal talked about modern art. Ladies and gentlemen, there is only one art, and that is the old art. The true is always true, and the false is always false. I have heard a great deal talked about different methods. There is no such thing. It is all talk, all nonsense. All over the world there are only two kinds of acting—the good and the bad—and in all ages it has been the same, and will be the same, Futurists notwithstanding. Let us be genial and welcome the new, but while we blow kisses to the ephemeral let us be a little tolerant of the eternal. (Laughter and cheers.) It is a great delight to me to be with you to-night, and I ask you to drink with enthusiasm to the prosperity, usefulness, and dignity of the Actors' Association. (Cheers.)

THE ACTOR-MANAGER.

Mr. William Devereux, in responding to the toast, said the Association was in a sound condition financially and influentially—financially because it was living within its means, and influentially because its numbers, though lamentably few, comprised most of the earnest members of the profession, and those brilliant members whose names were familiar in every home where the English drama was known. They derived particular strength from the actor-manager, who had always been a peculiarly English production. If they looked at Drury Lane Theatre they met the names of two well-known artistes, during a hundred years, acting in their own productions and producing pantomimes. Need he tell them he referred to David Garrick and the late Gus Harris? If the former drew more money as an actor, the latter had his revenge in the greater gorgeousness of his pantomimes. One William Shakespeare had unusual traits for an actor-manager, because he cast himself for secondary rôles, and played the Ghost in "Hamlet"; but he attributed that fact to the innate modesty of an author. They would remember he was a dramatic author. Malicious people said he cast himself for the Ghost in order that he might control the wanderings of that erratic person on Saturday night. (Laughter.) They had reason to be grateful that the actor-managers were on their side, because they had not only shown themselves proficient in their art, but had a knowledge of the affairs of business which they were going to make invaluable for the future.

OVERLAPPING INSTITUTIONS.

The institutions connected with actors were becoming bigger and bigger every day. There were the Actors' Benevolent Fund, King George Pension, the Actors' Day, and the Actors' Orphanage, all dealing with large interests, and there was also the Fund left to what was, through its patent, virtually a National Theatre, playing the classical drama, and the home of our best actors, and which could now be only enjoyed by a severe course of pantomime. There would soon be that hospital for decayed actors and defunct dramas, the National Theatre. (Laughter.) Those charities and institutions were generally directed by men of sagacity and integrity, men who would make admirable councillors of the Association. But if in the future these charities were not to overlap, if the money subscribed for actors was not to escape in office expenses, there must be one strong controlling body, and he ventured to say that body should be the Actors' Association. (Hear, hear.) The Association had two enemies—the man who was afraid to join because he might be obliged to ask at some time or other for his rights—he was a negligible quantity—and the apathetic actor. They had no longer any missionaries in the Association, but he would ask his hearers to explain to others not what they were doing, but what they should be doing, if it were not for the real enemy of the Association—the man who cannot be wakened from his torpor. He asked those present to be missionaries, and to bring that man round to the meeting at Sir Herbert's theatre the following Tuesday. (Cheers.)

TRIBUTE TO THE CHAIRMAN.

The toast of "The Chairman" was given by Miss Marie Löhr, who said she was very pleased to have the privilege of proposing the health of their honoured president. She felt rather timid, because it was such a great undertaking, but she thought her task would be an easy one, because he was what some people call "good copy." (Laughter.) Once upon a time, when she was young—(laughter)—she wanted very much to play at His Majesty's Theatre. So she went there, and was ushered into Sir Herbert, who appeared not to see her. After talking to him for some time and receiving no reply, she said at last: "You are not paying the slightest attention." "Yes, I am, my dear," was the reply. "I am thinking of what you might have been!" (Laughter.) That kept her from going to see Sir Herbert for ages—till she was fifteen. (Laughter.) Various tributes had been paid to their president. Some said he had too much imagination for the actor, and some said he had too much imagination for the author, and others that his imagination ran away with him—to Germany, where Reinhardt comes from, to America, where the dollars come from, or to Russia, where Gordon Craig comes from. They all joined in welcoming him back to England, where Tree comes from. (Laughter and cheers.)

The toast was accorded musical honours, with cheers for Sir Herbert, Lady Tree, and Miss Tree.

Sir Herbert Tree, in response, said he was one of those who thought to exclude the superior sex from that barren plain, Parliament, but at that moment he was inclined to depart from that cherished conviction, and say that if there was one member of the female sex who might very rightly from her eloquence and personal charm enter that august assembly, that person would be Miss Marie Löhr, whose want of veracity—(laughter)—in having overpraised her subject entitled her most assuredly to a place, not in the House of Commons, but in a House of Peeresses. (Laughter and cheers.)

The Chairman proposed the health of the secretary and *all* the officers, and Mr. Duncan Young briefly acknowledged the toast.

Dancing was resumed after supper, and carried on till nearly five o'clock.

TWENTY-SECOND ANNUAL MEETING.

"The fog appears to have choked the enthusiasm of some of our members," said Sir Herbert Tree, gazing upon the small assembly over which he presided at His Majesty's Theatre on Tuesday afternoon, when the 22nd annual meeting of the Actors' Association was held. "I hope," he added "it is not due to any miasma of spiritual indifference. I will make my address as brief as possible, because there are quite a number of items on the agenda which seem to be provocative of discussion, and perhaps I might then contribute any words of wisdom which, for the moment, I appear to be withholding. (Laughter.)

THE SHAKESPEARE MEMORIAL.

"But there is one matter to which I would like to refer, without taking the wind out of the sails of Mr. Derwent, who is going to address you on the subject, and that is the National Memorial Theatre, a project in which it is only natural the members of our profession should take a deep interest. I was connected with this movement from its first inception, when we intended a statue should be raised to Shakespeare, and, of course, if we only always kept in view the simple objective of honouring the memory of Shakespeare the task of the National Memorial would not be fraught with great difficulties, for from the public we have every sympathy. It has been objected, I believe, that there are too few members of the dramatic profession on the executive committee, and it is suggested that the Actors' Association is not represented on that body. It was felt by me, who may be in a certain way representative of this Association, some time ago that our profession was not sufficiently strongly represented on that body, I made personal representations to the committee, and, in consequence of that, quite a number of our profession were placed on the executive, and I hope that neither your president nor other members whose names I will read to you, would be backward in urging the claims of our calling in anything connected with the National Theatre or anything approaching to it. Let us be patient. You say, 'We have been patient too long.' These names, at all events, are on the executive of the Shakespeare Memorial Theatre: Sir John Hare, Sir Arthur Pinero, Tree, William Archer, Granville Barker, Arthur Bourchier (who is certainly very strongly in favour of the full representation of our profession on that body, and a man of some vehemence in expression and some power in doing not to say, acting), (Laughter and cheers), Mr. Comyns Carr (who, I believe, is to be very properly chairman of the dramatic committee, now in course of formation, and who is in favour of members of the A.A. being on the executive), W. L. Courtney, Forbes Robertson, Martin Harvey, H. B. Irving, Cyril Maude, Ellen Terry, and last, but by no means least, Mr. Bernard Shaw (laughter), who is always ready not only to be brilliant in words but to give up his time to help others. (Applause.) It would be thought from that array of names that the interests of the theatre will be looked after on that committee. I do not say that the work done by the committee since its inception has always been devoid of mistakes, but it is very difficult in movements of this kind not to make mistakes; but remember mercifully that it is a committee. I'll say no more." (Laughter.) Sir Herbert then referred to the Art Theatre in Moscow, which is run by actors, who are shareholders in the enterprise. The highest interest on the capital had been 120 per cent. and the lowest 60. There was a great spirit of camaraderie on the part of the actors interested in the theatre, and the public supported it most generously. "It would be very fine," continued Sir Herbert, "if we had something of the same kind in England—an ideal towards which we might strive. Who knows but that when the National Theatre comes to fruition we may not have something of the same institution which has been so splendidly successful in Moscow?"

STATEMENTS IN THE PRESS.

"Certain statements," continued Sir Herbert, "have found their way into the newspapers. It is always dangerous to be interviewed, for, however well meaning one is, one sometimes becomes ensnared in the toils of one's own eloquence. (Laughter.) But there have been certain statements that the cause of the delay is the difference of opinion which exists on the committee, and those statements are, I believe, made by a lady, and therefore might be treated delicately. Whatever differences of opinion there might have been on the committee—that is to say, the clashing of opinion on the side of those who favoured the erection of a memorial to Shakespeare, and on the side of those who favoured a theatre—those differences, I think I might say, at all events I have been told, have been completely wiped out, and there is on the part of the committee a desire only to do what is best for the speedy realisation of their ideal.

"There is a second statement that there are members of the committee who fancied their private interests might be injured by the erection of a National Theatre. I think that is, if I may say so, entirely uncalled for. It might be that a National Theatre such as we know of might interfere with the interests of individuals, but one has only to be sufficiently public-spirited—and I hope we are all sufficiently public-spirited—to say that individuals are less important than causes, and one should be very careful in getting out of the way of any oncoming engine, lest it should be, as they say in Scotland, 'bad for the coo.' It must be recognised that for that ideal individuals must give way and give way cheerfully. Then it has been said that the hon. secretary has, to put it mildly, not been enthusiastic in admiration of the National Theatre idea. That, I am informed, is an error. A further statement has been made that the executive of the National Theatre were left absolutely in the dark, especially as to money, and that it was one of the extraordinary things in connection with the so-called Executive Committee that they were left in ignorance of all that an ordinary Executive Committee was always allowed to know. In regard to that, I am able to say that, as soon as audited, the accounts were produced annually to the Executive Committee, and placed on the table at every meeting for the benefit of members who desired information. All details of the movement were discussed openly at executive meetings of the committee, and the committee had full cognisance of everything that was done or was proposed to be done. A printed copy of the report of the special committee was circulated amongst the members of the Executive Committee. The fifth question asked was, Who is in possession of financial authority? Who has the power, in short, to authorise expenditure?" In reply to these questions, Sir Herbert read a list of the Finance Committee and of the trustees.

LETTER FROM THE NATIONAL THEATRE COMMITTEE.

Sir Herbert asked the secretary to read the following letter from Mr. Gollancz, the hon. secretary of the Shakespeare National Theatre Memorial:—

Duncan Young, Esq., Secretary,
The Actors' Association,
32, Regent-street, S.W.

Dear Sir,—With reference to the proposal you have on several occasions conveyed that the Actors' Association should be represented on the Executive Committee, I have to assure you that the whole question of linking the theatrical profession with the Shakespeare Memorial movement for a National Theatre has for some time past been receiving the most careful consideration on the part of the executive, and at the end of last year it was definitely decided to form a special Theatre Committee. You may already have heard from the chairman of this committee.

As you will see from the above list of members of the executive, the theatrical and dramatic profession has a large representation on the committee. As regards your request, which I need hardly say there has been no idea of slighting, the difficulty of the committee has been this: No member of the executive has been nominated by any corporate institution. The distinguished men and women who serve on it have each been invited by reason of personal distinction or personal service to the cause, and you will agree that it would be difficult to make an exception in the case of the Actors' Association. There are a number of other institutions whose claims for representation would at once be pressed upon the committee. At the same time I may frankly say that the support of the Actors' Association is naturally strongly desired and hoped for by all concerned in the present undertaking, which aims at enhancing the dignity, prestige, and adequate recognition of the actor's profession in England. These aims all members of the executive have at heart, and any proposal from those interested that may help forward in any way the realisation of this great project, with which Shakespeare's name is to be identified, is cordially welcomed.

The Executive Committee would very much wish to make clear to your association their difficulty in asking your committee to nominate an official representative in view of what I have said above. But I have to say that if your association feels that the actors, apart from the actor-managers, are not at present adequately represented on the executive, the committee will be pleased to have such name as your association may suggest for nomination. It will then be my pleasure to submit the name for election at the next meeting of the Executive Committee, and I beg leave to assure you that the executive will view most favourably the proposal in question.

I sincerely hope that you will feel that this proposed procedure for meeting your wishes is the outcome of goodwill and a sincere desire on the part of the committee to testify to the Actors' Association our appreciation of their interest in the Shakespeare Memorial National Theatre project.—I am, dear Sir, yours faithfully,

I. GOLLANCZ, Hon. Secretary.

Sir Herbert added that he was sure all there appreciated the spirit of that letter (hear, hear), and whatever criticism might be in store they might at least rest assured that the present-moment attitude of the Shakespeare Theatre Committee towards the profession, not only managers, but the working members, could hardly be better than appeared from the wording of that letter.

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

In presenting the twenty-second annual report, the Council have much pleasure in congratulating the members on still further improvement in the position of the Association. The financial position of the Association continues to improve. Following the policy adopted last year, the debenture debt has been further reduced by £45. In addition to this a special debenture fund has been formed, already amounting to £37 12s. 8d. The Association is therefore in the happy position of being able to meet any likely call on the part of the debenture holders. During the past year the Council have been able to establish a reserve fund. For a long time it has been evident that the Association could never be in a really satisfactory condition unless, in addition to paying its way each year out of income, it could lay by for special emergencies. This year the Council felt justified in placing all entrance and re-instatement fees in the reserve fund, which has reached the satisfactory sum of £31 18s. 5d. One of the many advantages of a substantial reserve fund is that the Council will be enabled to undertake special litigation should occasion arise.

The present fully paid membership is 876. This is by no means a satisfactory total in view of the thousands of actors and actresses who are eligible for the Association. It is a regrettable fact that no fewer than 103 former members have been struck off the books for non-payment of subscription. In addition, the resignation of two members has been received with much regret. The Council again wish to impress on the members the advisability of paying their subscriptions as early in the year as possible. The more rigid enforcement of the seventy days clause during the last two years has been conspicuously successful.

The work of the agency department has again been most useful to the members, and is still increasing. A large number of engagements have also been made for cinematograph work, for which no agency fee is charged. The rehearsal-room has again proved a valuable source of income. Members can greatly assist the Association by bringing to the notice of their managers the existence of this convenient and central room.

The annual ball and dinner were enormously successful. The exertions of Mr. John Mortimer and his committee resulted in a welcome addition of £50 12s. 6d. to the funds of the Association. The chair at both the ball and the dinner was kindly taken by Mr. Cyril Maude. On the latter occasion Mr. Maude and Sir George Alexander showed their great interest in the work of the Association by a generous offer, which, unfortunately, it was out of the power of the Council to accept.

In July last the National Insurance Act came into operation. A very large number of actors and actresses come within the scope of the Act, and the Council felt it their duty to take all possible steps to secure to members of the theatrical profession the full advantages of national insurance. A pamphlet was issued explaining the provisions of the Act specially affecting actors, and urging all those who are compulsorily insured to join an approved society. It is impossible to state the numbers who have joined the Manchester Unity of Oddfellows or other societies, but the Council earnestly trust that their efforts have proved of service to the members of the Association and of the theatrical profession generally. Efforts were made by the Council to induce the Government to bring the profession under Part II. of the Act (the unemployment section), but, unfortunately, without avail.

The Council have again made efforts to have a representative of the working members of the Actors' Association represented on the committee of this fund, but for a considerable time their efforts to get recognised as the only representative body of working actors were unsuccessful. The Council, however, have great pleasure in announcing that within the last few days they have reason to believe that this request will now be conceded.

The Council wish, on behalf of the Association, to offer their sincere thanks to the President, Sir Herbert Tree, for the keen interest he has taken in their affairs during the past year. On no fewer than three occasions he has lent his theatre for meetings—viz., the annual general meeting, the mass meeting of the profession on the question of national insurance, and the mass meeting to discuss the question of Sunday opening. Sir Herbert further kindly presided at each meeting.

The Council have resumed the bi-monthly meetings for the purpose of interesting the members in the work of the Association. The two meetings already held were well attended. The most cordial thanks of the Association are due to the hon. medical staff for their invaluable services. The hon. solicitor has again earned the gratitude of the Association for his most willing and invaluable aid. Several members have benefited by his advice and assistance, and some important cases have been fought successfully. The Council are glad to be able to report that they have again had the benefit of the services of the same loyal staff, under the energetic leadership of the secretary, Mr. Duncan Young.

Revenue Account for the year ended Dec. 31, 1912.

Dr.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
To Balance brought forward....		103 8 9
„ Rent	150 0 0	
„ Lighting	31 6 3	
„ Salaries	311 0 6	
„ Telephone	20 5 0	
„ Printing and Stationery	63 16 3	
„ Newspapers for use of Members	16 16 6	
„ Insurance	5 3 9	
„ Advertising	29 19 9	
„ Debenture Interest	10 11 2	
„ Miscellaneous Expenses	62 2 10	
„ Repairs	24 11 3	
„ Accountants' Charges	10 10 0	
„ Legal Expenses, Hon. Solicitors' out of pocket	9 19 0	
„ Commission and Expenses of Agency	13 11 11	
„ Depreciation on Furniture ..	21 0 0	
		780 14 2
		£884 2 11
To Balance brought down		88 2 4
„ Debenture Fund, Amount transferred	37 12 8	
„ Reserve Account, being amount of Entrance, Reinstatement, and Fees and Interest on Deposit	31 18 5	
		69 11 1
		£157 13 5

Cr.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
By Members' Subscriptions		644 11 0
„ Entrance Fees		29 5 0
„ Reinstatement Fees		2 9 0
„ Rehearsal Room Fees		37 9 6
„ Agency Fees		48 19 4
„ Receipts in respect of Members' Telephone Calls		13 6 10
„ Receipts in respect of Year Book, 1912		19 19 11
		£796 0 7
„ Balance carried down		88 2 4
		£884 2 11
By Debenture Fund and Interest transferred by Mr. Cecil Raleigh	25 0 2	
„ Profit on Ball	50 12 6	
		75 12 8
„ Interest on Reserve Fund Deposit		0 4 5
„ Balance carried forward....		81 16 4
		£157 13 5

Balance Sheet, Dec. 31, 1912.

Liabilities.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
To Debentures, viz.:—		
Balance as at December 31, 1911	245 0 0	
Less Cancelled during the year	45 0 0	
		200 0 0
„ Sundry Creditors		48 8 8
„ Debenture Interest accrued		4 10 0
„ Receipts in respect of Year Book, 1913		21 7 2
„ Entrance Fees and Subscriptions for 1913 paid in advance		22 7 0
„ Suspense re Mabel Hardinge		10 19 5
„ Do. re Dinner		1 3 9
„ Debenture Fund		40 0 2
„ Reserve Fund		31 18 5
		£380 14 7

Assets.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
By Cash, viz.:—		
At Bank and in hand	26 19 3	
Petty Cash	0 2 11	
		27 2 2
„ Reserve Fund. Balance Bank on Deposit		31 18 5
„ Debenture Fund. Balance at Bank		37 12 8
„ Office Furniture, &c.:—		
Balance as at December 31, 1911	213 0 0	
Less Depreciation, 10 per cent.	21 0 0	
		192 0 0
„ Proportion of Telephone paid in advance		5 0 0
„ Debtors		5 5 0
„ Excess of Liabilities over Assets		81 16 4
		£380 14 7

ARTHUR DENNIS,
Chairman.
CLARENCE DERWENT,
Member of Council.

Auditors' Report, 1912.

We have examined the above Balance Sheet, dated December 31, 1912, and in our opinion the same is properly drawn up so as to exhibit a true and correct view of the state of the affairs of the Association according to the best of our information and the explanations given to us, and as shown by the Books of the Association.

BARNES, DUNN & BOUGHTON,
Chartered Accountants.
52, Gracechurch-street, London, E.C.,
January 21, 1913.

Mr. Arthur Dennis moved "That the Annual Report and Accounts be taken as read, adopted, and entered in the minutes." He said that the Association continued to make still further progress. It was not a great progress, but still it was progress. The membership, he was sorry to say, had not been kept up. There were no fewer than 103 who had failed to pay their subscriptions, and were therefore not counted on the list of members. Consequently their numbers were lower than last year, when they did not go on that system. However, the number was only seven down. Whenever he asked people why they did not join the Association, the invariable answer was, "What am I going to get out of it?" He always said to those people: "It is not what you are going to get out of it; it is what you are getting out of it without paying 15s. a year." He claimed that the Association was the only representative body of working actors which fought their battles. There were two battles that they fought chiefly. One was to stamp out the bogus manager, and the other was to try to see that the travelling actor had, at any rate, comfortable and sanitary dressing-rooms in the theatres where he played. The subscriptions this year, he was glad to say, were coming in splendidly. With regard to the agency, they had again made a slight progress. He knew there were some complaints about the working of the agency, but he did not think that those people who complained could understand the difficulties which Mr. Young had to contend with. Fortunately, they were now in the happy position of being once more friendly with the managers. They were fully of opinion that only by friendly co-operation with the managers were they going to get any real progress. It was no good running up against a brick wall. The managers had the say in the end.

THE STANDARD CONTRACT.

The Chairman: May I interrupt for one moment? I have a letter from the secretary of the Managers' Association, asking you to ap-

point a day when the Association can meet the West End managers. (Applause.)

Proceeding, Mr. Dennis said one thing he hoped was that the managers would remember that the Association had an agency, and a very hard-working secretary, who would do his level best to find the people for them. There were an excellent lot of actors and actresses in the Association, as the managers would soon find out if they tried them. The Association had still a millstone round its neck, and that was the debentures. The annual ball and supper had brought in £50 12s. 6d., and that had paid £45 worth of debentures, leaving only £200 to wipe off. (Cheers.) He hoped the next council would carry on the same policy, and still further reduce that debt.

Two very big things had been accomplished during the past year. A mass meeting had been held in that theatre, kindly lent by Sir Herbert Tree, at which the position of actors under the National Insurance Act had been discussed. That question of National Insurance was very important to actors, and at the time very few people understood what the insurance was about, but after listening to the lecture they found that the subject was very much elucidated in their minds. The Actors' Association went to the expense of advertising the meeting, and invited the whole of the profession, whether they belonged to the Association or not, but the non-members did not pay anything towards expenses. Then they had another mass meeting, which was, perhaps, of more importance. There was the bogey put before them of the possibility of their having to work seven days a week. Again that theatre was kindly placed at their disposal by Sir Herbert Tree. That mass meeting forcibly expressed its views, and, as Mr. Cyril Maude said at the annual dinner, it was very largely due to their action that the Sunday opening of theatres and music halls was not allowed. (Applause.) He appealed to every member of the Association to try and bring in new members. Last year he himself brought in six new members, and the year before more than that. If everybody there brought in two members it would help greatly. He wanted to see the Association at least 1,500 strong before the year was out. At the present time the membership was under a thousand, and he considered that was disgraceful in a calling in which at least 10,000 people were eligible.

The resolution was seconded by Miss Rose Cazalet and adopted.

ELECTION OF PRESIDENT.

Miss Lucy Sibley proposed the election of Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree as President of the Association. All would agree that it was unnecessary to say anything in support of such a resolution. (Applause.) The proposition, which was seconded by Mr. Adnam Sprange, was carried by acclamation.

Sir Herbert Tree expressed the pleasure it afforded him to accept the position. He added that he had received a letter from Sir George Alexander, who was always to the fore in coming to any meeting at which the interests of their profession were being debated. Sir George would have been there that day, but he was busy rehearsing, and as Miss Vanbrugh was acting at the Coliseum that afternoon, and only had mornings available, it was impossible for her to be present. They all deeply appreciated the work which Sir George found time to do for them on every occasion. (Hear, hear.)

ELECTION OF VICE-PRESIDENTS.

Mr. John Mortimer proposed the election of Sir George Alexander, Mr. F. R. Benson, Mr. Martin Harvey, Mr. H. B. Irving, and Mr. Cyril Maude as Vice-Presidents. The last name, he said, would be a most welcome addition to the list. Mr. Cyril Maude had helped them very much during the past year, and was a very great friend to the Association. The proposition was seconded by Miss Phyllis Broughton, and enthusiastically adopted.

THE NATIONAL THEATRE QUESTION.

The following Council Resolution was proposed by Mr. Clarence Derwent:—"That this meeting views with grave concern the lack of progress made in connection with the National Theatre, and demands that the Actors' Association should be directly represented on the Executive Committee of the Shakespeare Memorial Fund." He said: We have listened with the keenest attention to the letter which has just been read from Professor Gollancz, a letter which, whilst I thoroughly appreciate the friendly spirit in which it is written, must be described as non-committal. We, of the Actors' Association, feel rather deeply on this subject, and it is to be hoped the Association will clearly define its attitude on this very important and urgent matter of a National Theatre—important because from our point of view the settlement of this question is intimately linked up with many great reforms for which our Association stands, and urgent, in spite of the plea for patience, because as we are already in the year 1913, and the Tercentenary of Shakespeare's birth falls in 1916, it is obvious the matter brooks no delay. The resolution which stands in my name is backed by the unanimous vote of the Council, and represents the outcome of three years' continued endeavour on the part of the Association to obtain official recognition from the National Theatre Committee. Neither on the Council nor in the body of members, either individually or collectively, is there the slightest feeling of hostility towards the National Theatre Committee. On the contrary, our only desire is to work in active co-operation, and it is the fact that our very natural request is persistently thwarted that led to this resolution. We at least claim the right to criticise very carefully the work of the National Theatre Committee until such time as we shall share joint responsibility. Our claim is to be represented on the executive committee—not the dramatic or theatrical committee—and our reason is based on the fact that in the development of the National Theatre innumerable questions must arise vitally affecting the interests of the profession—such as pensions for actors, payment for matinées, length of engagement, and so on—questions the proper solution of which would go far towards making the National Theatre an inspiring model for all other theatres, and which can never be adequately dealt with unless the actors, the workers, of the theatre have due representation on the administrative board. The claim for a seat on the executive is unanswerable, and refusal would give rise to the most unfortunate apprehensions.

THE PROGRESS OF THE MOVEMENT.

With regard to the broader question of the progress of the National Theatre movement, let us be quite frank. The National Theatre is *not* progressing, and I think the reason is not difficult to ascertain. When three years ago the Statue Committee and the Theatre Committee decided to join forces, it should have been a *sine qud non* that the divergent opinions of those two committees should be harmoniously merged into one. Theoretically it was so, but in practice it was otherwise. We are told the public is lukewarm, but I dread to think of the temperature of the committee. (Laughter.) With all due respect to Professor Gollancz and others, we do not want to sully the memory of Shakespeare or the appearance of the City of London with any additions to those grotesque specimens of statuary which at present adorn the streets. Nor are we in sympathy with the attenuated scheme in the article in the "Fortnightly Review" and afterwards in a 7s. 6d. volume written by Henry Arthur Jones, who says: "Let us take a small, cheap-rented theatre, produce modern plays—mark the modern!—with a company of unpaid actors and actresses, and admit the audience free of charge." (Laughter.) If our hopes and aspirations were really to end thus, if our dream of a National Theatre were really to dwindle to a backyard theatre, with unpaid actors and actresses and dead-head audiences, I, for one, would say the National Theatre Committee have been false to the great trust laid upon them. I suggest the most appropriate opening performance would be a play by Henry Arthur Jones, possibly "The Liars," and Mr. Jones's royalties should be based on the receipts. (Laughter.) It is good to know that amid all this confusion the Actors' Association knows where it stands and what it wants. We ask for a theatre; we do not want a statue or any alternative scheme. We want a theatre, and we want it by the year 1916. We are not greatly concerned as to ways and means, though, personally, I would advocate the calling of another large public meeting simultaneously with a wide appeal throughout the country for funds, an appeal to the London County Council for a site, and a demand to Parliament for a public grant. (Hear, hear.) We ask that when the year 1916 dawns the English National Theatre shall take its place proudly beside the theatres of other European capitals as a permanent commemoration for all ages and generations of that priceless heritage, the genius of William Shakespeare. (Cheers.)

The resolution was seconded by Mr. James, and carried with three dissentients.

THANKS AND RE-ELECTIONS.

Mr. F. J. Arlton proposed a vote of thanks to Messrs. J. H. Mote and Sons (hon. solicitors), Mr. E. Bowen Rowlands (hon. standing counsel), and Messrs. Barnes, Dunn and Boughton (auditors), and moved that they be re-elected. Valuable work, he said, had been done for years by Mr. Mote for the Association, but last year they had worried him a very great deal, especially on the knotty question of the Insurance Act. He had also been very successful in bringing to a happy issue several cases with good results to members. Mr. Rowlands had given sound advice. The auditors, too, had paid great attention to their books, pointing out where improvements might be made and where they were going too freely in expenditure, and the result was the best balance sheet and report they had ever had.

Mr. C. F. Collings seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

Miss Vita Spencer moved a vote of thanks to the staff of physicians, surgeons, and doctors, and to Dr. A. E. Harris, hon. medical officer of health. Miss Spencer said that when she first came into the profession she was very young, and had just run away from boarding-school. She obtained what it was very easy to obtain when one first comes into the profession—a leading part with a small salary. (Laughter.) Eventually, Nemesis overtook her, and she was laid up with lung trouble and rheumatic fever. She would not put her pride in her pocket and return to her parents, and so she made up her mind to die—(laughter)—but a friend brought round the Actors' Association doctor, who absolutely refused to let her die, and, after restoring her to health, refused to take any money for either attendance or medicine. Like Mr. Lloyd George, she knew very little about the working of the Insurance Act (laughter), but the members of the Association need have little doubt about the benefits received from the medical staff. On the hon. staff they had the best physicians and specialists in the United Kingdom, and those gentlemen gave their services absolutely gratis. A short time ago, it was, she thought, the last bi-monthly meeting, she heard a member—that seeming rarity, a contented member—say, "Well, I for one am very satisfied with what I have received for my 15s., for I've had advice from one of the best specialists in London, a matter that would have cost me quite a lot of money had I not been a member of the A.A." They all grumbled at times, and perhaps it was as well they did, or the world would roll round too smoothly, and so gather no moss, but however much they grumbled, she was quite sure that deep down in their hearts they were grateful, and especially were they grateful to those gentlemen who so generously gave them their time and advice. The resolution was seconded by Mr. Wyn Weaver, who said that the assistance given by the doctors was fully appreciated, as was the courtesy with which patients were always received. The proposal was heartily endorsed.

Mr. William Devereux proposed a vote of thanks to the chairman. Sir Herbert Tree, he said, had a knack of always saying the unexpected. When he gave him (the speaker) an engagement he talked about everything, the piece they were going to play, the part allotted to him, but said nothing about salary. He talked for about a quarter of an hour, and at length said, "How long have you been on the stage?" "About fifteen years," was the reply. "And have you had any experience?" was the next question. (Laughter.) Sir Herbert's life had been one great success. When he went to Moscow he met with a theatre run by actors on sharing terms. In his (the speaker's) young days they were not accustomed to call them National Theatres, although they played old pieces and paid no fees; they called them "commonwealths." Sir Herbert had known all sorts of triumphs, but one of the most important was that when he was the main feature of a performance, when everybody from every part of the world was gathered together to do honour to the King. The fact that Sir Herbert had received a title was a recognition of a position already achieved. But he doubted, if the truth was known, if he had had prouder moments than when giving those brilliant matinées to his fellow artistes and listening to their applause.

Miss Laura Leycester seconded the resolution, which was enthusiastically approved.

In response, Sir Herbert Tree said he did wish they could have a rule that there should be no votes of thanks. (Laughter.) Everything that could be said had been said.

Among those present at the meeting were Messrs. Frank Arlton, Cyril Ashford, Harold Batt, Henry Bedford, Inez Bensusan, Ivan Berlyn, Dudley Bishop, A. G. Brown, C. A. W. Brown, Willox Cadogan, C. Hayden Coffin, C. F. Collings, Clive Currie, Chas. Curtis, Arthur Dennis, F. De Quincey, Clarence Derwent, Wm. Devereux, Henry Doughty, Ernest Douglas, Geo. Dudley, Lindsay Fencham, Hamylton Gordon, Harold Greaves, Chas. Harley, Claude Haviland, Walter Hubert, Ralph Hutton, Fredk. James, Edmund Kennedy, Fewlass Llewellyn, Lancelot Lowder, Frank Macrae, Murri Moncrieff, C. H. Mortimer, John Mortimer, Wm. Poel, Stanley Roberts, Walter Russell, Adnam Sprange, Reg. Stephens, Chas. Stone, J. C. Taylor, Raymond Thomas, Chris Walker, A. Warde, Wyn Weaver, Ben Webster, Aylmer Williams, Frank Withers, Norman Yates, Duncan Young (secretary); Misses Bessie Armytage, Phyllis Broughton, Lucie Breene, Ruhameh Catton, Rose Cazalet, Evelyn Cecil, Beatrice Chester, Liza Coleman, May Conrade, Gladys Cunningham, Helen Cunningham, Elizabeth Dexter, Ella Dixon, Belle Donaldson, Margaret Emden, Alice Esden, Barbara Everest, Gwladys France, Beatrice Fay, Barbara Finn, Madge Flynn, Lallie Forsyth, Florence Harcourt, E. Hart, Ada Hatchwell, Hilda Hatton, Clara Jecks, Judith Kyrle, Vera Leslie, Dora Levis, Laura Leycester, K. Lofting, March, Irene Moncrieff, Florence Nelson, Dulcie O'Mullcomy, Nina Osborne, Theresa Osborne, Helena Parsons, Letty Paxton, Rosemary Rees, Ida Reid, K. Russell, L. St. Quinten, Lucy Sibley, Vita Spencer, Laurence Therva, Helen Vicary, Gracie Vicat, Rita Ward.

Mr. F. Morland sent a message regretting his inability to be present.

The result of the ballot for the Council of the Actors' Association for 1913 is as follows:—

Ben Webster	260	Phyllis Broughton	151
C. Hayden Coffin	241	F. J. Arlton	149
Clarence Derwent	227	Douglas Munro	149
Frederick Annerley	210	Beatrice Chester	146
W. G. Fay	195	Lucy Sibley	145
Frederick Morland	193	Norman Yates	140
Chris Walker	187	C. F. Collings	138
Murri Moncrieff	176	Laura Leycester	134
Cyril Cattley	175	Arthur Dennis	130
Adnam Sprange	172	J. Benedict Butler	120
William Devereux	159	Judith Kyrle	120
Frederick James	157	Wyn Weaver	113
John Mortimer	155		

NOT ELECTED.

Evelyn Cecil	111	J. L. Dale	90
John R. Collings	106	Francis Roberts	87
Charles King	106	George F. Story	86
Vita Spencer	105	Gladys Preston	55
Grendon Bentley	95	Madge Flynne	44

GERMAN PLAYS IN LONDON.

"DER BIBERPELZ" AT THE QUEEN'S THEATRE.

A revival of interest to lovers of German drama was that given by the Deutscher Bühnen-Verein at the Queen's Theatre on Feb. 9 of Hauptmann's ingenious and amusing play, "Der Biberpelz." First seen here in an English translation under its sub-title, "The Thieves' Comedy," in 1905, it was produced in German two years later—in 1907. In this dialect play it may be remembered that, though many quaint types are outlined, the chief interest lies with the characters of the wily "Waschfrau," Frau Wolff, who manages to conceal the thieving and poaching proclivities of herself and family under the "sheep's clothing" of an irreproachable respectability, and of the provincial magistrate, von Wehrhahn, open to the most flagrant "management" by those who are willing to play upon his weaknesses and foibles. Frau Alix Grein, who has done much good work for the Society, on this occasion surpassed all her previous efforts, and, as Frau Wolff, gave an impersonation of the clever, "brainy" reprobate, which carried conviction in every gesture and intonation. It was a piece of comedy characterisation of the highest type. Herr Max Sylge was also well placed as the fussy, incompetent Magistrate, petrified by officialdom and at the mercy of the clever rogues who circle around him. The support given to these two characters was sound all round, Fräulein Annie Soehner and Hedda Kostner playing with light touch as the true daughter of such a mother. Herrn. Fitz Triebe and Franz Nissen gave good accounts of the amusing Doctor Fleischer and the victimised Herr Krüger; and Herr Alfred Goltermann was quietly funny as the usher, Mitteldorf, other parts being safe in the experienced hands of Frau Olga Sylge and Herrn. Heilmann-Uhlmann, Leopold Miller, and Erich Moral. A large audience testified to their appreciation of an excellent performance.

"ELSE VOM ERLENHOF" AT COSMOPOLIS.

The Deutsche Theater Gesellschaft presented at Cosmopolis Theatre, High Holborn, on Feb. 8, the dialect, or "popular" play, "Else vom Erlenhof," by Staak, the scene of which is laid in the Black Forest. Fräulein Lena Wirth, in the part of Else, the natural child of the Baron von Altringen, acted with the pathetic charm which is one of her most valuable assets. The contrast between her happier moments, whilst still unconscious of her origin, and the more tragic scenes, when the knowledge of it causes her engagement to one who is really unworthy of her to be broken off, was sympathetically brought out. The scene in act three in which Else makes the acquaintance of her father and forgives him, was finely carried through by Fräulein Wirth and Herr Heinrich Victor as the Freiherr von Altringen. Herr Reinhold Griff was dignified and restrained as Erich von Altringen, in love with his cousin, Else, and finally married to her; and Herr Gerald Weiss as her uncle and stern foster-father, Rauninger, who is at last brought to forgive the wrong done to his dead sister, was earnest and sincere. Herr Friedrich Kraft acted easily as Bertel, the original undesirable fiancé of Else, but managed to conceal his villainy under a pleasant exterior; and welcome relief was afforded by the courting episode between the foresters, Franz and Gertrud, amusingly acted by Herr Hans Hohl and Fräulein Rita Mann. Mention should also be made of Fräulein Elsa Lessing's capable acting as Hanna.

THE POLLIES AT THE EALING HIPPODROME.

Heralded by posters depicting Mr. Pelissier as a knight setting forth to slay the "hump," the Follies opened a six weeks' suburban tour at the Ealing Hippodrome on Monday last and received a hearty reception from a large and enthusiastic audience. They fully succeeded in their mission, and kept the audience bubbling over with mirth. After the orchestra had been intimidated into playing the Follies Overture, "Pelissiana," the company sang their opening chorus, this being followed by a fine vocal effort by Miss Daisy Fisher, entitled the "Big Bamboo." The next number was a political quintet, entitled "Guessing," a scathing comment on current events, in which Mr. Lewis Sydney gave an exhibition of his powers as a humorist, and provoked great laughter by his funny replies to his interrogators. Miss Doris Vane then sang her song about the "Sun which we did not see last summer," for which she received a hearty ovation. This was followed by Mr. Pelissier trying to compose a catchy rag-time tune, during which humorous effort Miss Fay Compton and Douglas McLaren gave an admirable rendering of their "Dandy one-step," for which they received a well-deserved encore. Messrs. Pelissier and Sydney then contributed a highly amusing "execution" of Excelsior, the well-known duet, after which the audience were treated to three well-rendered "Beverage quartettes," entitled Port, Cyder and Rum, which consisted of explanations in music and mirth of the respective qualities of the three drinks mentioned. Mr. Pelissier then gave "Mein Faderland," an inimitable impersonation of a German gentleman's adventures in London; after which Mr. Sydney Lewis related humorous stories.

The "Follies'" edition of the works of Dickens, which followed, was an exceedingly clever and well-executed act. The scene portrays a shelf of a library, along which are depicted the various works of Dickens. The backs of the volumes open one by one, and out of each appears an artiste impersonating one of the principal characters, and giving a short character sketch. The performance concluded with the burlesque, "An East London Music Hall," which kept the audience in a roar of laughter.

MOTOR NOTES.

BY "COUNTRYMAN."

The Tyre Question.

The tyre question is foremost in importance in the equipment of a car, and every motorist who is considering the cost of running a car rightly gives tyre expenses first place in his calculations. There are two chief factors contributing largely to the tyre cost which are, unfortunately, not sufficiently studied, the first by the car manufacturer who sends cars to Australia, and the second by the user in Australia. The first point is as to the size of the wheel. This has undoubtedly a most important bearing on the ultimate tyre cost. Tyre measurements are designated by the approximate diameter, generally in millimetres, whilst the profile, that is, the section of the tyre, is given in true size in millimetres. It is the wheel diameter, however, which makes all the difference between economical tyre running and the reverse. We have no hesitation in saying that the larger number of cars are considerably under-tyred. It is understood that we speak chiefly from the standpoint that interests motorists most, i.e., of economical running. The most popular car type in Australia is of an engine power of from 15 to 20 h.p., and varying in weight as far as European makes are concerned, with a five-seated body from 23 to 28cwt. As a rule, no larger tyre than 815 by 105mm. forms the tyre equipment, whilst in a great many cases 810 by 90's are used. Now, it is obvious that if such cars were fitted with an 880 by 120 tyre, the actual wheel revolutions over a given distance would be considerably less, with consequently less wear, and the shocks received on our bad roads would be distributed over a larger air area, and consequently be less harmful in their effect on the tyres. The additional comfort and the increase of mileage of the latter sized tyre, as compared with the former one, would amply recompense the user for the initial extra outlay, as actual tests carried out with a great number of cars have proved that over-tyring a car will lead to cutting tyre bills down by 33 1-3rd per cent., if not more. In many cases it is impossible to do this once the car has been sent out with smaller wheels, as there might not be sufficient clearance nor sufficient engine power to allow the necessarily enlarged gear ratio, but it is to be hoped that now, when Australia has become such a large market for motor-cars, the car manufacturers will study the Australian requirements regarding wheel size, and, if necessary, alter their models so that the largest possible wheel sizes will be made the standard equipment. Many motorists are now beginning to realise this point. Manufacturers, for various reasons, generally for the sake of economy, from their point of view, are apt to fit tyres inadequate in size to carry the weight of the car when fully loaded, or to stand the strain of many miles at high speeds. Tyres may not be perfect as yet, but, to do them justice, they are, as a rule, overloaded, and if, in addition to this, the extremely bad road conditions obtaining in Australia are remembered, how much more apparent must be the need for large wheel sizes and heavy tyre profiles.

As the best means of regulating traffic conditions and familiarising the police with the steering and stopping abilities of automobiles, the Automobile Club of Frankfort-on-the-Main, Germany, gave a practical demonstration in the streets of the city on August 29 last, which was attended by the police commissioner, all inspectors and captains, nearly all lieutenants, and the entire reserve police force, comprising some 300 patrolmen. The club used in the demonstration about fifty high-powered cars, several small runabouts, horse-drawn carriages, motor-trucks, horse drawn delivery wagons, bicycles, etc., duplicating traffic conditions as they might exist at the busiest street-crossing of a very busy city.

In this demonstration it was proven conclusively that if every driver adhered strictly to the traffic rules, particularly in turning corners, the vehicles could be driven at high speed without interfering in the least with each other, or with the pedestrians. Braking tests were then made, and the surprised policemen learned a few things about the stopping possibilities of motor-cars, as compared with horse vehicles. A two-horse coach with two passengers, driven at 9½ miles per hour, required 33ft. before it could be brought to a halt: a heavy landaulet at the same speed was brought to a halt in 17ft. A single-horse buggy needed 38ft. to come to a stop, after being driven at 12 miles per hour; a small motor-car proved that it could go 25 miles an hour and still stop in as short a distance. Different vehicles were then driven at from 8 to 40 miles an hour—the latter being faster than that of a runaway team—and in each case the motor-car was brought to a stop in less than half the space required for the horse-drawn vehicle at the same speeds. The demonstration has been carefully described, and the report has appeared in all the leading papers of Germany. Similar tests are to be made for the benefit of the traffic police in all the large German cities.

Stroke Questions.

Long-stroke motors continue to retain high favour with the public, and are much prized as texts by people who write advertisements. Nevertheless, engineers are beginning to question whether the stroke-bore ratio is at all a materia. consideration in design. As one of the pioneers recently has taken occasion to indicate, the supremacy of the long-stroke motor, particularly in England, arose solely from the fact that the heavy rate of taxation was based on the size of the cylinder bore. The method of rating, in turn, was determined at a period of the industry's development when it was thought that dimension practically determined the power of the unit. And the net result was to cause designers to study the economics of engine design in an earnest effort to secure the greatest possible power at the lowest tax rate.

Considering engines of the same displacement, that is, comparing methods of converting the energy of equal volumes of combustible vapour, the theory seems to be gaining favour that it is the ratio of expansion alone that matters.

Fuel's Future.

Really it is up to the petroleum industry to supply the required quantity of fuel for automobile consumption, and that it is well able to do so, at least for the next decade, no one seems to doubt. The essence of the fuel problem, as far as the automobile industry is concerned, is to determine whether the fuel shall be standardised or motors and carburetting devices rendered sufficiently flexible to accommodate any available light hydrocarbon oil. The conflict between supply and demand daily grows more serious and must so continue.

The producer's natural recourse, when threatened with an overwhelming demand, is first to raise his prices, and second to resort to the equally ancient and commercially instinctive expedients of adulteration and substitution. To meet both contingencies the consumer's defenders—that is, the automobile manufacturers—must develop their product to a point of broader applicability.

The producer's final resorts are, first, to seek new supplies of the crude—a process of highly problematical promise; and, second, to find means for increasing the yield of any desired product by instituting new methods of fractionation, and even of synthesis. Obviously such a course would require practically no counter move.

The essence of the fuel question, therefore, is to determine whether the automobile industry shall develop to the point of accommodating itself to the exactions of the fuel industry, or whether the fuel industry shall advance its art to the point of meeting the demands of the motorist. In both instances many difficulties are involved; vast stores of exhaustive research and inventive energy must be expended and large amounts of money. Natural evolution will cause the interests of both parties to the conflict to converge. Possibly a common meeting ground may be determined upon in advance of the real crisis. Otherwise, it must be left to the more robust of the two industries to force the other to invest its substance in technical advancement. That is the crux of the situation.

DRAMATIC GROOVES.

Mr. Rutland Barrington on Sunday read a paper to members of the Playgoers' Club on the subject of "Grooves." He said there was evidence that in the dramatic profession the artistes, the playwrights, the theatres, and the critics were in grooves. The success of an actor in a certain part meant that his fate would be cast for similar parts in succeeding plays. As the reputation of the artist increased, the style of the part became identified with the artiste's name and handicapped him in his profession. Versatility should be the great asset of an actor, but he regretted to be compelled to say that it was extremely doubtful that such was the case. Modern audiences preferred to welcome the personality and even the mannerisms of their favourites. He might be permitted to offer himself as an example. He had been playing in comedy for some years past, but his name was so firmly associated with the operas of Gilbert and Sullivan that he had been asked if he was still in Gilbert and Sullivan opera at the Savoy. Writers of plays seemed to work in grooves. Some years ago we were saturated with the so-called "problem" play, and lately there seemed to have been a surfeit of "bed-room" plays. For the moment it seemed as if dialect was having its innings, and he hoped that some bowler would be found capable of showing that the innings was not a long one. There was also a "ragtime" groove which had something extremely fascinating about it, but it appeared to have been "cut" so deeply as to offer hopes of a not too prolonged existence. There was one groove that he feared London audiences would never get out of—that of arriving too late and of leaving before the close of the performance, both of which proceedings were more distressing to the performers than the perpetrators could possibly suppose. He was inclined to think that in the honest endeavour to break away from tradition to some extent the modern artiste was carving a groove of realism and ultra-materialism which might eventually prove equally wearisome as former methods.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC.

On Thursday evening, Feb. 6, the concert commenced with Mozart's Quartette for strings in E flat (K. 428), Miss Dorothy Bostock, A. K. Estella Patterden, Sybil Maturin, and Thelma Bentwick being the executants. Of the four movements, the Minuetto Allegretto was very neatly played, and the Andante con moto given with technical mastery and good effect. Two songs, "Sebben, crudele" (Caldara) and "Creation's hymn" (Beethoven) were interpreted by Miss Ruby Warwick, who possesses a very deep contralto voice. She was most successful in the latter, although evidently suffering from hoarseness. She has a sympathetic style, and does not force her voice unduly. The next on the programme came the Sonata for violoncello and piano in G minor, Op. 5, No. 2 (Beethoven), very well played by Miss Helen Beeching and Mr. George Thalben Ball, the tone gradations being well maintained throughout, the utmost clearness of detail and great intelligence being displayed by both students, the Rondo Allegro particularly satisfactory, as also the Adagio Sostenuto. Miss Lillian Burgiss, who has a soprano voice of good quality, sang the "Willow song" by Coleridge Taylor, and "Thy lips are touched with flame" (G. W. Chadwick). The first song suited Miss Burgiss well, and her enunciation was good also. The Quartette for strings in A minor, Op. 51, No. 2 (Brahms), played by Elsie M. Dudding, Jessie Stewart, Thomas Peatfield, and Thelma Bentwick, was technically and artistically well performed, the Allegro non troppo and Finale, Allegro non assai, being the most noteworthy. The accompanists were Miss Doris Cowbrick and Mr. Arnold Smith.

Much commotion was caused on Saturday afternoon last outside the King's Theatre, Hammersmith, during the last matinée of the pantomime by a band composed of members of the Amalgamated Musicians' Union striking up the Dead March in "Saul." The police immediately stopped the playing, and the procession marched to Brook Green, where speeches were made in favour of all the musicians at suburban theatres being paid a minimum wage of £2 a week and brought into line with the music hall award. What have the suburban managers to say to this last request?

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LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

Correspondents will please note that it is absolutely necessary that all copy should reach us on Wednesday mornings by first post.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

On Monday, Feb. 10, the Drama, entitled
"THE TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS."

After a most successful run the Marlborough pantomime came to a conclusion on Saturday last. For the commencement of the dramatic season the management have secured for this week "The Two Little Vagabonds." The play was produced with its usual success, and Mr. Morton Powell has secured a strong company for its interpretation. Mr. Victor Rae's treatment of the part of George Thornton is delightful in every way, and he contributes much to the success of the play. To Mr. Frank Fordham praise is due for a well considered study of Captain Darville. Messrs. Guy Routh and H. Hesselgrave must be complimented on their work as John Scarth and Bill Mullins, and able assistance is rendered by Mr. Phillip Carey as Dido Bunce, and Mr. Harry Leamer as The Coughdrop, two of Mullins' confederates. As the Two Little Vagabonds, Miss Eva Lumley as Dick and Miss Rossi St. John as Wally are excellent, both being well suited to their respective parts. Miss Ethel Kay won golden opinions by her sympathetic impersonation of Marion Thornton. Miss Mona Hall as Barbara Scarth and Miss Kate Perowne as Sister Randall are in every way equal to their parts; whilst Miss Carrie Nino as the maid servant and Miss Dora Diehl as Biddy Mullins also render valuable assistance. Mr. Percy Strange as Leeson, Mr. Francis Amptill as Hargitt, Mr. Timothy Blake as Doctor Lynn, Mr. Johnnie Powell as Job Gargoyle, Mr. Williams as Policeman, and Mr. George Carside as Footman complete a company which is excellent all round. The scenery is admirably realistic and the dressing good.

WIMBLEDON THEATRE.

On Monday, Feb. 10, the Romantic Play,
"SWEET NELL OF OLD DRURY."

Miss Julia Neilson, one of our most gifted and most delightful of actresses, scored so triumphant a success on her first visit to this theatre last year that her return was assured, and was eagerly looked forward to. She came, was seen, and conquered all on Monday evening by her winsome, charming portrayal of the part of Nell Gwyn, a part she has made peculiarly her own. In each of the four acts, whether as the bright, saucy orange girl, who by her vivacity enraptures her Sovereign, or as the lady of fashion with quick repartee and merry bandinage, or again as the true woman who saves her lover and his sweetheart by her clever manœuvring, in every mood she shows herself to be an artiste of uncommon worth. Mr. Fred Terry was, unfortunately, owing to illness, not in the cast as last year, but Mr. H. Humberston Wright was excellent as Charles II., and played the character to everyone's satisfaction. Very clever, as he always is, was Mr. Dennis J. Hogan as the repulsive Lord Jeffreys. Miss Mollie Terraine made a truly pathetic picture as the suffering Lady Olivia Vernon; Miss Violet Farebrother was dignified as Lady Castlemaine; and Miss Betty Bellairs appeared to advantage as the Duchess of Portsmouth. Miss Winifred Rae was buxom and bright as Tiffin. Sir Roger Fairfax was manly and interesting in the hands of Mr. Alfred Kendrick; while Lord Rochester and Lord Lovelace were played with ability by Mr. Henry Hewitt and Mr. Bellenden Clark. That always droll comedian, Mr. Arthur Williams, as previously, undertook the rôle of Percival, the actor of the old school, and his merry quips and cranks cause hearty amusement. Mr. Arthur Applin gave a well-studied rendering of the part of Rollins, the other player. Mr. James Carter-Edwards was an imposing picture as Captain Graham Clavering and was all that could be desired. The lesser parts, but all well given, were undertaken by Mr. Horace Hodges as First Alderman, Mr. G. Oliver Smith as Second Alderman, Mr. Leslie Gordon as Lacey, Mr. George Dudley as Mercer, Mr. Telford Hughes as William, and Master Eddie Dennie as the black pageboy, Nebuchadnezzar. The original scenery and furniture were all as when the play was presented at the New Theatre. That pretty song of Nell's in the second act, specially written by Mr. Raymond Roze, was most sweetly sung by Miss Neilson, and the quaint dance arranged by Mr. John D'Auban between Nell Gwyn and the two actors was warmly applauded. Mr. Arthur Garrett is general-manager for Miss Neilson and Mr. Fred Terry. Miss Neilson's season will be for twelve nights, quite an unusual length of time, but no whit too long for her very numerous admirers in this south-western suburb. On Monday evening the curtain was raised again and again after each act, and at the close the audience would not be content until in a few graceful words Miss Julia Neilson said how she had looked forward to coming back to this theatre, and how delighted she was with the kind welcome she had received.

ELEPHANT AND CASTLE THEATRE.

On Monday, Feb. 10, the Drama, entitled
"THE CHRISTIAN."

This powerful and absorbing drama is the attraction at this popular house this week. The cast is of exceptional brilliance, and the staging is excellent. Mr. Hall Caine's plays are always a big draw at this theatre, and packed houses are the order at every performance. Mr. Derwent Hall Caine as John Storm gives a powerful and resolute interpretation. His acting is easy and pleasing, and he soon "grips" the audience; Mr. Ernest K. Nelson as Lord Robert Ure is cunning personified, and his study is an excellent one; Mr. Geoffrey H. Gilbey as Horatio Drake is admirable, and Mr. S. G. W. Gravel is capital as Father Lamplugh; and Mr. John Roberts as Archdeacon Wealthy and Mr. Arthur Boyd Hamilton as Brother Paul do good work. Miss Ellin Aggerholm is a charming Glory Quayle. She plays with much grace and feeling, and is to be complimented upon a very interesting and finished performance. Miss Lydia Bland, Miss Elaine Bhagan, and Miss Winnie Morgan are very realistic as the happy-go-lucky serios, the Three Graces. The minor parts are all played by most capable artistes.

CRYSTAL PALACE THEATRE.

On Monday, Feb. 10, the Drama, entitled
"THE SPECKLED BAND."

Mr. Arthur Hardy's principal company scored heavily in Sir A. Conan Doyle's clever play here this week, Mr. E. Vassall-Vaughan as Dr. Grimsby Rylott gave a most thrilling performance and held his audience breathless during his bursts of violent passion. His entire impersonation was a study of such a mono-maniac as the doctor undoubtedly must have been. Miss Joan Marshall thoroughly entered into the part of the tearful and oppressed heroine, although her tears never robbed her of her charm, and the possession of a rich and sympathetic voice was a great asset in her impersonation. The Mrs. Staunton of Miss Agnes Marcy was an excellent representation of the housekeeper, who was the doctor's creature and accomplice, and Mr. James Horstead, as Ali, the Indian servant, cleverly and naturally played the "mild Hindoo," and was moreover carefully made up. Mr. Maurice Drew gave a pathetic rendering of the weak old butler Rodgers, with his quiet voice and uncertain manner. Mr. George Barnes as Mr. Armitage, the village grocer and juryman, did much to lighten the shadows of the play, and was wise in not overdoing the humour of the part. Mr. Herbert Bradford was precise and judicial as the Coroner, and Mr. V. Franklin as the Foreman of the Jury was natural and efficient. Mr. A. King as the Coroner's Officer administered the oath to the various witnesses in the inquest scene as to the manner born. Mr. Gerald Rodgers made Dr. Watson a quiet study of a gentleman and a practitioner, and is to be congratulated on a clever performance. Mr. A. Corney Grain as Sherlock Holmes was a great success, his sensational entrance and transformation being most effective, and his subsequent disguise being a triumph of clever make-up. Master Fredk. Reynolds as Billy, Holmes's page, was a smart young actor of great promise, and with a good sense of humour. The entire production seemed to be an exact replica of the original London representation, and is another score for Mr. J. Bannister Howard.

THE BROADWAY, NEW CROSS.

On Monday, Feb. 10, the Play, entitled
"THE EASIEST WAY."

The attraction here this week is the above powerful play by the American author, Mr. Eugene Walter. The piece is of the problem order, and since its first production at the Queen's Theatre, London, it has been provided with a happy ending, a change which should certainly enhance its chances of success with popular audiences when on tour. The company, which is under the direction of Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow, give an excellent rendering of the play. Miss Elsie Goulding submits a finished portrayal of the rôle of the erratic yet lovable society butterfly, Laura Murdock. The pathos is very moving, and her outburst of grief at losing her lover at the end of the third act finely expressed. Mr. J. Edward Pearce presents a calm, dignified picture of the pleasure-loving and good-natured millionaire, Willard Brockton. Miss Nora Vaughan is entrusted with the most sympathetic character in the play, the good-hearted, easy-going actress, Effie St. Clair, and she well merits the hearty applause with which several of her speeches are greeted. Mr. Pringle Roberts, as the warm-hearted, chivalrous young journalist, John Madison, soon enlisted the sympathies of the audience, and scored a great success in the rôle. Mr. Arthur Murray made the most of the small but important character of Jim Weston, investing it with an undercurrent of pathos which was very effective. As the coloured servant Annie, Miss Bessie Frank acted with much naturalness, and caused infinite merriment. Miss Lilian Belmore as Mrs. Farley and Miss Sybil Claymore as Mrs. Williams also do well. The audience was large, enthusiastic, and intensely interested, the issue of the story being in doubt until a few seconds from the final fall of the curtain. The scenery was effective, especially the set of the first act, representing the exterior of a country house in the mountains near Denver. Mr. Stanley Roberts is the general-manager for the company.

HOLLOWAY EMPIRE THEATRE.

On Monday, Feb. 10,
"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."

The ever green story embodied in the drama adapted from Mrs. Beecher Stowe's beautiful work, "Uncle Tom's Cabin," is being greeted by Hollowayites with a degree of hearty enthusiasm which is absolutely refreshing. Mr. Charles Harrington's original No. 1 company includes some talented and gifted artistes, who, with the rest of the combination, throw all their energies into the production, success crowning their efforts. Mr. J. H. Boehm contrives to enact Uncle Tom in a way which enlists general sympathy. His portrayal is earnest and convincing, and one on which he can be cordially complimented. Mr. Raymond Wallace appears as Phineas Fletcher with excellent effect. Mr. Bertram Howard as Mr. St. Clair, the wealthy planter, is very good, and the part of George Harris had a manly exponent in Mr. Percival Young, whose performance throughout was excellent. Miss Ethel Masterman acts with considerable judgment as Little Eva, her deathbed scene being one of the most pathetic scenes in the play. Eliza Harris, as played by Miss Hero Hathaway, excites the sympathy of the audience, who follow with keen interest the trials of the unfortunate girl. Miss Hathaway is very successful in the part. Miss Blanch Leroy is well placed as Mrs. St. Clair. Mr. Edward Leroy does not spare himself in the portrayal of the brutal slave owner, Legree; and the rôle of Dan Haley is equally well acted by Mr. H. Jenkins. Mr. A. Astor Roe cuts a grotesque figure as Marks, and is very mirth provoking. Full of fun and mischief, Topsy is ably represented by Miss Annie Watson, and is soon a favourite. Special mention must also be made of Miss E. Stuart Graham (Aunt Ophelia), Miss Lizzie Allen (Aunt Chloe), Mr. J. Gibson (Mr. Wilson), Miss Florence Tyler (Emmeline), Miss Mabel Bowman (Dinah), and Miss Stella Harrington (Cassy). During the performance there is a grand plantation festival by real negroes, the coons in their hymns, songs, and dances, tambourine, and bone solos, and an impersonation of negro life in the cotton fields of the Southern States of America. There are also a number of speciality turns, which include Davis Mowing, comedian; John Bradley, rifle manipulator; Carlton Byron, coloured vocalist; the Tennesseans, jubilee singers; Fred. Davis, buck dancer; Arthur Coombes, banjoist; Dinah Dixie, singer and dancer; W. H. Moore, basso; and Lillian Danby, contralto.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Feb. 10,
"THE GLAD EYE."

Mr. Louis Meyer has sent an exceedingly strong company on tour in that intensely amusing farce, "The Glad Eye," and a big audience accorded the production a hearty welcome at Kennington Theatre on Monday. The performance was as diverting as any given during the long run of "The Glad Eye" at West-End houses, for all the members of the company put in their best work, and the result was as entertaining an evening as could possibly be imagined. Miss Billie Sinclair made a skittish and lively figure as Kiki, and the way she gave the glad eye to her admirers sent the house into roars of laughter. Mr. Stanley Brett was responsible for a clever and frolicsome sketch of Gaston Bocard, an effort which took him into the front rank of comedians. Mr. Percy Marmont made the most of the part of Maurice Polignac, displaying rare qualities of comedy, and acting with neatness and finish. The great scene between Polignac and Bocard in the second act was worked for all it was worth by Messrs. Brett and Marmont, and it is a long time since the audience at Kennington have had so merry a time as was provided by these two artistes. Miss Enid Sass made a great hit as Suzanne Polignac, looking very pretty and acting with much animation and skill. Miss Marie Pera gave a vivacious and clever study of Lucienne Bocard, Miss Ada Rothwell sustained the part of Juliette creditably; and Mr. Sidney Sinclair was distinctly good as François, the butler. Mr. W. E. Richardson displayed great gifts of humour in the rôle of Galipaux, acting with irresistible quaintness. The Chousette of Mr. Fred Eastman was an excellent piece of work, and deserving of the highest praise. Mr. Derwent Grenville was the extravagant lover, Floquet, to the life; and Mr. Tom Richardson was decidedly good as the detective, Tracassin, who so successfully impersonated the Count. Mr. Philip Anthony made a polished and debonair Count; while Mr. A. Dennis was well placed as the Police Sergeant. "The Glad Eye" is preceded by "An Interrupted Divorce," in which Mr. Sidney Sinclair and Miss N. Bennett successfully participated.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Feb. 10, the Comedy, entitled
"MILESTONES."

Messrs. Vedrenne and Eadie present this week at the Dalston Theatre, the successful comedy, by Arnold Bennett and Edward Knoblauch, entitled "Milestones." Crowded houses encourage the players with applause, which is the evident outcome of genuine appreciation. John Rhead is played by Mr. Campbell Gullan with conspicuous effect. As the strenuous young man, headstrong head of a firm, and aged but bumptious baronet, he is equally true in treatment of the individual represented. Gertrude Rhead, his high-spirited sister, seen first as the young lady inclined to study the fashions of 1860, next as the maiden aunt watching over her neice, and finally as the aged lady, is admirably played by Miss Mona Harrison. The Samuel Sibley of Mr. Goodwin Nock is a fine display of character-acting, and in representing his quaint and honest spouse, Nancy Sibley, Miss Murielle Langley is equally worthy of commendation. Miss Gladys Hamilton is charming as Rose Sibley, looking beautifully fresh in the first act, portraying a typical matron in the second, and winning the sympathy of all as the old lady in the last scene. Mr. Guy Newell as Ned Pym is a favourite. Mr. Charles Lascelles as Lord Monkhurst treats the part artistically. Much earnestness is brought to bear upon the representation of the character of Arthur Preece by Mr. Dallas Cairns, and his scenes with Miss Goodall are among the most interesting of the play. Miss Goodall is Emily Rhead in the second act, and Lady Monkhurst in the last, and it is in the scene in which as the nobleman's widow she finally agrees to marry Preece, the man she has loved from the first, that she gives proof of possessing the real art of the actress. Mr. Evelyn Wickens makes a sprightly Richard Sibley, and Miss Tonie Edgar-Bruce as the Hon. Muriel Pym is a true exponent of the manners and style of 1912. Miss Keith Lytton, who, in the first act, plays Mrs. Rhead, gives a clever sketch of the precise old lady of the period of 1860. Mr. Norman King and Mr. Kenneth Webb are also included in the efficient cast.

BRIXTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Feb. 10, the Drama, entitled
"FROM MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS."

As the start for the spring dramatic season, Mr. Morton Powell is this week presenting his company in this sensational play, written by Mrs. Powell. Miss Pattie Hastings depicts with skill the temptations of the pure-souled mill girl, Lina Lee. The clever young actress succeeded in winning the sympathy of the audience throughout. Mr. Frederick Freeman was admirable as the hero-engineer of the mill, Laurence Langdale. Mr. Alfred Stretton effectively depicted the villainy of Dr. Lace Levaille. Miss Irene Carrington was likewise good as Muriel Marsh; Miss Mabel Roselle did well as Our Mary Ellen; and Miss Lizzie Lennon (Tilly, a real Lancashire lass), must not be forgotten. Mr. C. H. L. Locke well impersonates Dr. Cloud, and in addition acts as the business-manager for Mr. Morton Powell. Mr. J. A. Hybert put in a clever piece of acting as the mill-owner, Matthew Marsh, and Mr. Richard Webb was capital as Sam Swaddle. The scenery and appointments are first-rate, and the realistic burning of the old mill-house deserves praise.

BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD.

On Monday, Feb. 10, the Musical Comedy, entitled
"AUTUMN MANŒUVRES."

Saturday night saw a quiet finish to the pantomime, "Mother Goose," and on Monday the theatrical year proper was ushered in with such a strong attraction as Mr. George Dance's company in "Autumn Manœuvres." The piece is splendidly staged and dressed, and those present witnessed a most entertaining performance. With Mr. Huntley Wright in his original part of Captain Withers, it would be impossible for the most censitive member of the Territorial force to take umbrage at the irresponsible genial little officer, who, in Mr. Wright's hands, is a source of sheer enjoyment. Mr. J. Gordon James acts and sings in manly and pleasing style as Captain Frank Falconer, and the feather-headed Oswald Orde is portrayed in capital comedy vein by Mr. Harry Johnstone. Sergt.-Major Sykes, whose mission it is to keep a watchful eye on his Captain, is excellently portrayed by Mr. Ivan Clarke, who also scores vocally, and the peppery Major-General Pomeroy is happily hit off by Mr. Oswald Lingard. Miss May Rawlinson is very charming as Alix Luttrell, and her fine vocalism wins very hearty applause. Miss Bertie Adams is a girlish and graceful June Pomeroy, and her acting and singing are all that could be desired in the part. As the goey Lady Larkins, Miss Beatrice Willey is decidedly successful, and becomes highly popular. The augmented and very efficient orchestra are under the bâton of Mr. Harold Lonsdale, and Mr. Lindsey Edwards is general-manager for Mr. George Dance.

THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD.

On Monday, Feb. 10, the Drama, by C. Douglas Carlile, entitled
"THE GREAT DETECTIVE."

Miss Carlotta de Yonson's company in "The Great Detective" is the attraction here this week, and the piece is playing to excellent audiences. Mr. C. Douglas Carlile plays powerfully as the detective, Martin Dare, whose remarkable deductions are often a source of wonderment. Mr. Lee Gilbert's humour as the ingenious assistant, Tatters, causes unlimited mirth, although it is at times rather obtrusive. Mr. Chas. A. Carlile contributes a clever character sketch of the old reprobate Foster, and as the flash cracksman Vernon, Mr. Percy Doneville does exceedingly well. Miss Carlotta de Yonson brings much dramatic ability to bear upon the part of Sal Williams, and her performance is entirely praiseworthy. As the good-looking but unscrupulous Claire Vernon, Miss Mina Greene is decidedly good, and Miss Georgie Steed is a satisfactory Mrs. Bolton. Mr. Geo. Jones gives a capital rendering of Jim, the Smasher, and Mr. Jed Gerald is excellent as Bill Thompson. Remaining parts are all in quite capable hands, and the scenery and stage effects are very appropriate.

THE SHAKESPEARE.

On Monday, Feb. 10, the Melodrama, entitled
"HER RUINED LIFE."

The Cinema has for the nonce capitulated to Thespis pure and simple; so, in place of pictures, the patrons of this fine theatre have had served up for their delectation during the week that strong and vigorous drama, "Her Ruined Life," which has been played to two houses nightly, and to good houses. Mr Will Casey has got together a capable company, and their advent has been a success. We cannot imagine a better impersonation of Margaret Chester than that given by Miss Florrie Kelsey, either as the simple, devoted, all-believing young wife and mother, or as the gay and unspeakable Mme. Traska, now full of fire, hatred, and revenge. Mr. Frederick F. Lloyd essays the part of Maurice Chester, the man in the red mask, the poor hunted soul, the creature who seems to have ceased to exist, yet who forms an important part of the picture. Mr. Lloyd may be regarded as a consistent and earnest player. Mr. Will Casey, as Jeremiah Dibbs, relieves the "grey" of the piece with his drolleries, and it would be a difficult thing for him to find a funnier part, or one in which a first-class comedian could disport himself to better advantage. He is ably assisted by Miss Annie Mitchell (Mrs. Will Casey), who, in the character of Lottie Puff, is decidedly refreshing and humorous. A third sharer of comedy honours is Bertie Beecham, played breezingly and lightly by Mr. Henry Wright. Bill Saunders is undertaken by Mr. Dicky Bird, a splendid character actor. His "Bill" is a fine bit of work, an opinion which is emphasised in a striking manner by his various scenes with Maurice and Karl. Forcible and real is Mr. Edward Swinton in the part of Allen Ford. The drama is well mounted, and the appointments are excellent. Mr. Bernard Lawrence Edwards is the manager of the theatre, and Mr. Leon Jesse musical director.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, Feb. 10, the Spectacular Military Drama, entitled
"THE INDIAN MUTINY."

Plays of a military character are always cordially welcomed in Marylebone, for the West Londoners have a warm corner in their hearts for "the boys of the rank and file." Mr. Jackson Hayes put in some good work as Randall MacGregor, carrying himself well, and speaking his lines excellently; Mr. Barrie Thornton was equally successful as his brother Geordie; Mr. Jack Denton proffered a capital character study of the Rev. David Blount; Mr. R. A. Beaton and Mr. Ernest Lawson made light of their troubles as Corporal Cassidy and Private Sweenie respectively; Mr. Edward Boddy submitted a careful embodiment of Achmet; and Mr. Frank Carlile was duly ferocious as Nana Sahib. Miss Nina Osborne artistically portrayed Jessie Brown, and sang sweetly; Miss Winifrede Dryden was well suited as Alice; Miss Hilda Bell did excellently as Effie; and Miss Lilla Wilde ably interpreted Mrs. Campbell. Mr. W. J. Mackay produced the play with his usual careful attention to detail, and Mr. F. R. Griffith's able lieutenant, Mr. F. Blackmore, looks after his patrons in front with commendable courtesy.

SADLER'S WELLS THEATRE.

On Monday, Feb. 10, the Drama, in Three Acts, entitled
"THE LUCK OF ROARING CAMP."

An excellent week's business has been done at this popular home of drama with the play of American mining life, "The Luck of Roaring Camp." It is performed by the stock company and produced in the usual complete manner under the direction of Mr. H. G. Brandon. Mr. Frank Beresford represents the hero, Will Gordon, most successfully, and is a great favourite with the audience. Mr. Walter Thornton gave a powerful performance as the evil spirit of the camp, Tom Barnes. For his colleague in crime he has a most capable representative of Gonzales in Harry Seymour. The negro servant, Ebenzer, has a clever impersonator in Mr. Harry Benson, who presents an amusing performance. Paddy McGinty is represented by Mr. Will Hook in an able manner, and with Miss Daisy Carlton as Mrs. O'Flynn kept the audience in a most hilarious mood. Mr. J. E. Lestine was very good as Old Pard. Miss Effie Bartlett as Iovita de Sutro has a character that suits her admirably and allows ample opportunities of showing the histrionic abilities that she undoubtedly possesses. Tommy, Iovita's child, was naturally performed by Miss Bertha Hanbury. Miss Walton Hemming was a dainty Nell Cutris, and won the hearts of all by her winning and attractive manner. The minor characters were all in capable hands, and added to the success of the drama, which was mounted in the complete manner always associated with this theatre. The Bioscope screened some excellent films. Mr. Adderley Howard has been appointed acting-manager, Mr. Stone now being general-manager for the company.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE, WINDSOR.

On Monday, Feb. 10, the Sporting Drama, entitled
"THE GENTLEMAN JOCKEY."

We have this week another of Mr. Tom H. Taylor's well known companies—this time with "The Gentleman Jockey." A good all round performance of this highly entertaining piece is presented by an experienced company of artistes, and nicely staged and dressed, it meets with the hearty appreciation of good houses. Foremost in a strong cast is Mr. Percy Boucher, who gives a highly humorous portrayal of P.C. Dumbleby, the village constable, keeping the audience in a high state of hilarity with his witty and clever jokes. Mr. Harry T. Wood acts in a powerful and impressive manner the part of Sir Harry Felstead. Mr. Victor Howard, as Archie Ravenscourt, is responsible for a capital impersonation. Mr. Annesley Hely appears as the villainous Austin Deepdale, and gives a convincing study of the part. As Grant, the chauffeur, Mr. Harvey Welton has a character which suits him admirably, and which he handles with considerable skill. The David Loseby of Mr. Grayson Bancroft is a clever and finished reading of the honest old Trainer. Mr. Edwin Ling plays with much dramatic force as Giuseppi Canona, an Italian, whilst Mr. J. Templar Ellis deserves special mention for his Mitchell, a Scotland Yard detective. Miss Doris Ward is to be congratulated on her assumption of Lavender Loseby, a part she plays with a tenderness that wins general favour. Miss Nellie Knuth possesses a charming stage presence and proves an excellent exponent of Kitty Felstead. Miss Molly Hackett scores a success with her clever performance as Jennie Jenkins; and, with Mr. Percy Boucher, contributes considerably to the merriment of the evening. Miss Francis J. May, as Tessa Ginetta, an Italian girl, plays with much feeling and effect; and amongst others Mr. Alec Wright (Inspector Sharples), Mr. E. L. Meeham (P.C. Barraby), Mr. Alfred Ames (Rev. Chandos Goode), and Mr. Teddy Leonard (Billy Tippit), receives well-merited recognition. The general-manager for Mr. Tom Taylor is Mr. Percy Boucher.

The death is announced of the well-known author and dramatist, M. Oscar Metenier, the founder of the Grand Guignol Theatre, Paris.

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SPORTING NOTES.

BY SANTOI.

Uncle Pat is favourite for the Lincolnshire. At least, the Continental lists have exalted this irresponsible horse to the place of honour. I say irresponsible advisedly, because a variety of things might have deprived him of his form last year, after he ran so well in the Lincolnshire. At all events, he went to pieces, as it were, several times "carted" his stable, and always the poor B.P., who for some reason forgave the horse his iniquities every time he ran. Well this year, whatever his fate may be on the Carholme, it will not be the fault of his new trainer, Day, if he fails, for he has already slipped a lot of work into Uncle Pat. The change of climate from Jevington to Newmarket will naturally benefit the horse, the atmosphere in that part of Sussex being particularly enervating.

Mr. James Buchanan has been good enough to express publicly the state of affairs concerning Wise Symon, who has been more or less a street corner tip since the entries appeared. It is not at all certain that Wise Symon will run for the Lincolnshire Handicap. There is a doubt, I believe, in regard to his stamina, and it should not be overlooked that he also figures in the five-furlong Batthyany Plate on the opening day of Lincoln.

Brandimintine's scratching out of all hurdle races surely means that his chance at Lincoln is seriously thought about. I think he represents a good outside chance, especially if the "going" should happen to be heavy, as it was two years ago, when he ran second to Mercutio. He blundered the penultimate hurdle at Sandown the other day, or he might have been concerned in that great finish for the Grand Prize, which, as things turned out, was wrestled by Minstrel Park and Shaccabac. Anyhow, Brandimintine, like Mustapha and the other Lincoln horses that have been given hurdling practice this winter, will be fit.

It is said that the disappearance of Bonbon Rose from the Spring Handicap was not due to dissatisfaction at the weight apportioned after all. Bonbon Rose, it will be remembered, figured in a doping case in Maisons Laffitte last autumn. Under a new rule, samples of the saliva of horses are taken after every race at certain meetings in France and analysed, with a view to detecting alkaloids. The saliva taken from Bonbon Rose after his victory in the Gold Cup was alleged to contain traces of dope, and, in consequence, he was disqualified. The owners are seeking to prove that Bonbon Rose was not doped, and to get him reinstated as the winner of the race in question. The maximum penalty for doping in France is disqualification for the particular race concerned. In England, of course, the consequences are more serious, and any owner or trainer proved to have been concerned in doping horses would certainly be "warned off." In the circumstances, therefore, it is as well that Bonbon Rose should not run in England until the litigation is settled.

The Jacobus case, which led to Chadwick being suspended after the horse had won at Birmingham, cannot, of course, be commented upon, as it is now before the Stewards of the National Hunt. I noticed Jacobus's running on Saturday. The horse was in front for some distance, and he did not run at all badly under his big weight. He was eventually pulled up. Something may have happened to him—I cannot say, as by that time we were greatly interested in Highbridge, who was running so much better than most people expected him to do. Jacobus is in the Grand National at a nice handy weight, and he will meet Highbridge on 6lb. better terms than at Sandown. He was a good hurdler last winter, and later distinguished himself over fences for a young horse, winning the Welsh Grand National. Mr. Bower Ismay, however, has Bloodstone in the race, the horse, it will be remembered, that followed Jerry M home last year. It must be a source of grave annoyance to Mr. Ismay to have one of his horses concerned in a matter referred to the N.H. Stewards. Everyone knows that Mr. Ismay is a non-betting owner, who races for sport alone. Indeed, one might say that the question of money is not a factor in his turf enterprises. The National and Derby would be a magnificent "double." Though improbable, it is by no means impossible—with horses like Craganour and Bloodstone or Jacobus.

In what striking fashion do horses sometimes manifest antipathy for certain men—antipathy that reaches bitter hatred! The case of Marigold VII., who attacked Madden the jockey, and almost killed him shows the savagery a horse can display. Diamond Jubilee disliked M. Cannon intensely, and it was this curious prejudice of the horse which gave Bert Jones his chance. King Edward and Richard Marsh realised in time the hopelessness of putting up Cannon in the colt's classic races, and more as an experiment than anything else they decided to give the little-known stable boy Jones a chance. Jones happened to be on good terms with Diamond Jubilee, and the brilliant deeds of the colt proved the excellence of the combination. The latest instance of antipathy to a jockey is afforded by King of the Scarlets and Piggott. This horse will not go for Ernie. He escaped falling at Sandown last week, but he did not raise a gallop at any part of the three miles race in which he ran, and was nearly always last. Kelly, on the other hand, who, of course, is no match for Piggott as a jockey, can do anything with King of the Scarlets. When the King ran on successive days at Hurst Park last month, Piggott on the first day came down, but when Kelly rode twenty-four hours later the horse did not put a foot wrong, and but for being carried out of the course by a loose horse, he would have beaten Dysart and won.

SELECTIONS.

At Hurst Park to-day I shall not oppose HIGHBRIDGE in the Grange Handicap Steeplechase, DUBLIN BAY will about win the February Maiden Hurdle, PELLAH the Novices Hurdle in Bernstein's absence only, and

DYSART

the Champion Steeplechase.

Manchester, which opens another full week on Monday, ought to provide some interesting sport. CORFU can hardly lose the County Maiden Hurdle, and I think MAYBE is a good thing for the Monday Steeplechase. The Brackley Handicap Hurdle has secured but a poor acceptance, and the weights have gone up more than a stone. VALENTINE MAHER ought to win it. GALE II. has a chance in the Salford Steeplechase, and WAVESPRAY will about win the Oldham Steeplechase. On Tuesday, IRISH MAIL should be backed for the Broughton Steeplechase, CARRIGUE ought to win the Waterloo Steeplechase, BILL SMOGGENS "each way" is a good bet in the Four-Year-Old Hurdle Handicap, and CROSS QUESTION has another soft job in the Stretford Steeplechase.

Mr. John Darlison, late of the Royal Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh, has been appointed general-manager of the Dumfries Theatre.

The pantomime at the Britannia Theatre, Hoxton, "Beauty and the Beast," has had an extraordinarily successful run. The leading spirit of the production, Miss Maud Mortimer, who in the rôle of principal boy has achieved a triumph with Messrs. Feldman's "Alexander's rag-time band," "Oh! you beautiful doll," "Who were you with last night?" and "It's a long way to Tipperary." Mr. Dan Robson as the Beast has been singing the ballad of the year, "Take me back to the garden of love," with great success.

SPECIALS FROM THE PROVINCES.

"LOOKING FOR TROUBLE," ON TOUR.

The mirth-provoking farcical comedy, "Looking For Trouble," by Helene Gingold and Laurence Cowen, which Messrs. Bransgrove and Slaughter are sending on an extended provincial tour, opened at the Margate Hippodrome on Monday, and had a decidedly favourable reception. The audience entered heartily into the spirit of the piece, and roared with laughter at the many amusing complications and amazing situations evolved by Angus MacPherson and the other conspirators in the plot.

Mr. Macintosh Clyde succeeded without undue effort in making the character of the Highland soldier servant to Capt. Porches highly diverting. In the rôle of Angus MacPherson he had full opportunities for the exercise of his natural humour, and his acting was droll throughout. Miss Verita Vivian made a charming and dainty little widow, Mrs. Kate Bellingham, her acting being bright and vivacious throughout. Miss Dorothy Bowden made a stately and imposing Mrs. Julia Porches, sustaining her part with complete satisfaction. Miss Charity Wynne was a gentle and graceful Helen Perches, and played with much grace and charm. Mr. Hugh Webb portrayed the bewildered and irascible father, Mr. Pierpont Porches, in real farcical style; and Mr. Dick Webb as Capt. Frank Porches was, both when disguised and his natural self, exceedingly good. What little opportunity there was for any approach to serious acting was taken advantage of by Mr. Bertram Burleigh as Charles Bracebridge, who eventually pairs off with the charming young widow. Mr. Keith Shepherd was amusing as Bethel Petch, a dude friend of the family; and Mr. Robert Rivers presented a good character sketch of Crawling, the butler, into which rôle he imported a considerable amount of individuality. Mr. Ellis Dee was good as Police-inspector Goatham.

"THE MIDNIGHT WEDDING" ON TOUR.

Mr. Walter Howard's company, with the military drama, "The Midnight Wedding," started its extended tour most auspiciously on Monday at the Hippodrome, Bolton. The play (written by Mr. Howard) possesses an interesting plot and the company presenting it is a powerful one, and throughout act with earnestness and force. Miss Annie Saker is the heroine, Princess Astrea von Strelsburg, and acquits herself to the satisfaction of her audiences, giving a very finished and convincing portrayal. As the hero, Paul Valmar (lieutenant and swordsman of the Red Hussars), Mr. Alfred Paumier looked indeed a "soldier and a man," and was deservedly applauded. The two villains, Captain Rudolph von Scarsbruck and Prince Eugene von Strelsburg, were capably taken by Mr. Aidan Lovett and Mr. C. Quinton Fulford respectively. The comic element was supplied by Mr. Henry Maule, who was most amusing as Private Bobo, and Mr. W. Watkin Wynne and Mr. St. George Frere very droll as Sergeant Max and Corporal Otto. Mr. William J. Miller was impressive and dignified as Leopold, Crown Prince of Savonia, while Miss Jessie Burgwitz made a pretty and bright Kathie, the serving-maid of the Golden Dragon; Miss Ruth Wingrove doing excellently in the small part of Santanella. Mr. Henry Nelson was admirable as Father Gerard, the priest; Mr. W. Hilliard was the Sergeant of the Guard; and Mr. Ronald Hodgson an orderly. The scenery throughout was excellent.

"HIS SON."

Original Play, in Four Acts, by E Henry Edwards and Edward Irwin, Produced at the Winter Gardens, New Brighton, on Feb. 10.

Richard Wentworth ..... Mr. Charles Weir
Grosvenor Wentworth .... Mr. Edward Irwin
Mr. Tamplin ..... Mr. Buchanan Wake
Monty Witchcombe .. Mr. G. Lyon Hastings
Sam ..... Mr. Alan Mure
Inspector ..... Mr. Trevor Sylvain
Bob ..... Mr. Henry Dilwill
Hawkins ..... Mr. Arthur Visarde
Mary Latimer ..... Miss Jane Savile
Bella ..... Miss Phyllis Thatcher
Lady MacMichael .... Miss Daisy Jamieson
Lydia MacMichael .. Miss Vera Cunningham
Dennis Trevor .... Mr. Ethelbert Edwards

Finely acted and beautifully mounted, this play had an enthusiastic reception on Monday evening, the curtain being raised several times after each act, and at the finish the authors had an ovation. The play is very well written and cleverly constructed and contains many scenes of tenderness and several incidents of power, the situations being strong, but never melodramatic or cheap. Richard Wentworth, a drunken, quarrelsome Australian gold digger, hears that his wealthy father in England, from whom he has been estranged, is dangerously ill and would like to see him before he dies. Wentworth is getting ready to start for England when the police arrest him in connection with a saloon squabble. This may mean detention for several weeks, and in the meantime his father might die without having forgiven him, and possibly leave his estate to someone else. Dennis Trevor, Dick's chum, suggests that as Dick's father had not seen him since he was a lad, he, Trevor, could easily palm himself off as his son, until Dick's father died, and then Dick could come along and inherit the money. Dick agrees and Trevor sets out for England. Grosvenor Wentworth, the father, is very favourably impressed with the manly character of Trevor, whom he, of course, supposes is his son; in fact, Trevor quickly becomes a favourite with everyone, especially Mary Latimer, old Wentworth's charming ward. Dick, having got out of the squabble, travels to England, introduces himself to the family as Dennis Trevor, and is welcomed by old Wentworth as his son's best friend. But all Dick wants is money, and as his father continues to improve in health instead of dying he becomes exasperated. The real Dennis Trevor informs Dick that he will not take any money out of the estate to give him, because it would be robbery. Meantime, Dick has been guilty of forgery in connection with his father's estate, and while in a drunken condition he reveals himself to old Wentworth. His father is much shocked, but his greatest grief is that Dennis Trevor is not his son. Trevor determines to go back to Australia, but the pleadings of old Wentworth and the young man's love for charming Mary Latimer finally induce him to alter his decision.

Mr. Ethelbert Edwards scored an unmistakable success as Dennis Trevor, looking and acting the part to the life. He was equally at home in his love scenes as in his stronger moments. Mr. Charles Weir undertook the character of the drunken Richard Wentworth, and in both make up and action was admirable, and always kept in the picture. Mr. Edward Irwin made the father a very kind and lovable old man, and his quiet and effective manner greatly impressed the audience. As a comely dude Mr. G. Lyon Hastings was satisfactory; and smaller parts were played skilfully by Mr. Alan Mure, Mr. Buchanan Wake, Miss Daisy Jamieson, and Miss Vera Cunningham. The two important female impersonations were both splendidly handled. Miss Jane Savile, an actress of exceptional charm, enacted the ward, Mary Latimer, with much sweetness; whilst the rugged and emotional Bella found a powerful and clever exponent in Miss Phyllis Thatcher. "His Son" must be written down a complete success. Mr. H. Browning is the general manager of the company.

MASONS AT WORK.

THE DRURY LANE LODGE.

The twenty-eighth anniversary of this highly popular and prosperous Lodge was held at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, London, on Tuesday last. Colonel Henry Walker, P.G.Swd.B., the Master of the co-fraternity, occupied the chair, and was well supported by his various officers. The Grand Lodge of England was represented by Messrs. Harry Nicholls, P.G.Std.B., Thomas Catling, P.A.G.D.C., Gerald Maxwell, P.A.G.D.C., Albert G. Neville, P.G.D., James Percy Fitzgerald, P.G.Std.B., Charles Cruikshanks, P.A.G.Std.B., Isaac Seaman, P.A.G.Std.B., Chas. F. Quicke, P.A.G.Supt. Wks., Walter H. Glazier, P.G.Std.B., the Rev. H. T. Cart de Lafontaine, M.A., P.G.D., and W. Lestocq, P.A.G.D.C. Several Provincial Grand Officers were present, among them Messrs. Fewlass Llewellyn, P.P.A.G.D.C.Mx., and David Urquhart, P.P.G.D.Surrey.

Colonel Hy. Walker opened the lodge, with the assistance of his officers—

Messrs. A. Blomfield Jackson, I.P.M.; Blake Adams, Master of the Green Room Lodge, S.W.; Bruce Smith, J.W.; Rev. W. Cree, M.A., Chaplain; Thos. Catling, treasurer; J. P. Fitzgerald, secretary; Albert Ward, acting as S.D.; Dr. W. Wilson, J. D.; Albert G. Neville, D.C.; Frank Braine, organist; E. T. Pryor, I.G.; J. C. Harker, S.; A. Steffens Hardy, S.; W. J. Crumplin, S.; and T. Reeves, T.

The following Past Masters were also in attendance: Messrs. Lionel Rignold, L.R., Luigi Lablache, L.R., A. Rashleigh Phipps, Clarence T. Coggin, L.R., and James Powell, L.R.

The dispensation from the Grand Lodge of England permitting the installation of Mr. Blake Adams as Master of the Drury Lane Lodge while occupying the chair as Master of the Green Room Lodge was read, and Mr. Blake Adams was duly presented for the purpose of being inducted to the privileges of his high office. Colonel Henry Walker rendered the ceremony very impressively, and delivered the customary addresses in a manner worthy of the highest traditions of the Lodge. Colonel Walker was assisted in his labours by Messrs. Gerald Maxwell, P.A.G.D.C., W. Lestocq, P.A.G.D.C., Albert G. Neville, P.G.D., and Charles Cruikshanks, P.A.G.Std.B. Some forty brethren were present at the Board of Installed Masters when the ceremony of installation was completed.

The new Master appointed his officers as follows, investing such as were present: Colonel H. Walker, P.G.Swd.B., I.P.M.; Bruce Smith, S.W.; J. H. Ryley, J.W.; Rev. W. Cree, M.A., chaplain; Thomas Catling, P.A.G.D.C., treasurer; J. Percy Fitzgerald, P.G.Std.B., secretary; Dr W. Wilson, S.D.; E. T. Pryor, J.D.; Albert G. Neville, P.G.D., D.C.; J. C. Harker, almoner; Frank Braine, organist; Geo. A. Highland, W.M., 3377 I.G.; R. Frost, S.; A. Steffens Hardy, S.; W. J. Crumplin, S.; Louis L. Weiner, S.; J. Myer, S.; and T. Reeves, tyler.

The following members of the Lodge were present: Messrs. Harry Barford, Rev. Donald Hole, Fred Leslie, Sir Bryan Leighton, D. Price Powell, J. J. Robinson, R. A. Northcott, H. Bernhardt, Barry Lupino, Shad Frost, Thos. J. Digby, R. W. Salisbury, Geo. W. Kitchin, C. R. Stephens, A. L. Woodward, Will Clarkson, and others, and among the visitors were Messrs. A. B. Tapping, Frank Lister, Frederick Ross, Percy Plowman, Fred. H. Buckmaster, Arthur Bridges, Alfred Wareing, and W. P. Campbell Everden.

Mr. Albert G. Neville presented the Lodge accounts for the past year, and commented on the highly satisfactory state of affairs financial, and upon his proposition, duly seconded, it was resolved that the accounts be received, adopted, and entered on the minutes. Mr. Albert G. Neville expressed his intention of going up a steward to the next festival of the girls' institution.

The heroic leader of the recent South Pole expedition, Captain Robert Falcon Scott, whose tragic death while in pursuit of scientific knowledge is deplored throughout the world, was held in high estimation by the members of the Drury Lane Lodge as one of their members, having been entrusted with the privileges of the first stage of his Masonic career by Mr. J. H. Barnes in 1901, the reigning master at the time; Mr. Barnes was assisted on that occasion by Messrs. J. Percy Fitzgerald, S.W., A. G. Neville, J.W., Harry Nicholls, secretary, C. T. Coggin, J.D., H. Nye Chart, S.D., and S. H. Tatham Armitage, I.G.

Messrs. Fitzgerald, Neville, Nicholls, and Coggin were present in Lodge on Tuesday last.

Mr. Blake Adams spoke of the nation's loss by the death of the intrepid explorer and the bereavement of his family, and the brethren present gave expression of their sympathy and stood in reverent silence while Mr. Frank Braine, the esteemed organist of the Lodge, rendered the "Dead March."

The business of the day being ended, the brethren and their guests adjourned to the Connaught Rooms to dine. After dinner the customary loyal and masonic toasts were honoured—that of "The Worshipful Master" drew an eloquent and telling reply from Mr. Blake Adams, who spoke of the pride he felt in occupying the unique position of Master of two of the most distinguished Lodges in the theatrical world, and expressed his intention of doing his utmost to uphold the honourable traditions of the past and to retain to the end the esteem in which, according to Colonel Walker, the proposer of the toast, he was held by the brethren, and he also expressed his firm conviction that he would at all times receive the greatest assistance and support from the officers he had that day appointed.

The Rev. H. Cart de Lafontaine, P.G.D., replied to the toast of "The Grand Officers Present and Past," suggesting that the best way of really understanding what the grand officers did and how valuable their services were was to become a grand officer.

Colonel Walker replied to the toast of "The Installing Master," and Mr. Harry Nicholls to that of "The Past Masters." Both these gentlemen were in their happiest mood in responding.

Mr. W. P. Campbell Everden, on behalf of the visitors, expressed their gratification in being present and their admiration of the work they had witnessed.

Mr. Bruce Smith, the S.W., responded to the toast of "The Officers of the Lodge," and on their behalf and on his own expressed the determination to render their best services to the Master and to uphold the dignity of the co-fraternity.

Mr. Charles F. Frood, P.M., L.R., produced the entertainment, and was assisted by Mr. Ernest Sewell, a very expert and entertaining illusionist, and Mmes. Nellie Walker, Helena Spicer, and Amy Brook.

The names of Messrs. Frederick Ross, Lewis Sydney, and Albert Ward were also upon the programme, but these gentlemen were unfortunately unable to appear owing to professional engagements.

At the Hippodrome, Croydon, on Monday evening last, Messrs. Bransgrove and Slaughter's company successfully performed Mr. Gerald Du Maurier's London success, "Doormats," to a crowded and delighted audience, when the play, direct from Wyndham's Theatre, and produced under the personal supervision of the author and Mr. Gerald Du Maurier, had an enthusiastic reception.

DEATH OF MR. G. B. BIGWOOD.

The death occurred at Southend-on-Sea on Tuesday morning of Mr. George Barnes Bigwood, the once well-known comedian, aged eighty-four. He was born in London in 1829, and made his first appearance before the public at a "fit-up" theatre at Spalding in 1845, and in 1846 appeared for the first time on the London stage at Miss Kelly's theatre, now known as the Royalty. Here he was associated with Mr. and Mrs. Honner, and played as member of a stock company associated with the performance of such pieces as "A Betting Boy's Career." Afterwards he went to the Queen's Theatre (the Dusthole), in later years the Prince of Wales's—now the Scala—in the part of Noah Claypole in an adaptation of "Oliver Twist," on Oct. 26, 1846, and later to the Standard.

He was for many years at the Britannia Theatre, Hoxton, forming one of the stock company—first under Mr. S. Lane, who died on Dec. 28, 1871, then under his widow, the popular Sara Lane, that able directress and manageress, who entertained a high regard for him. Among his companions at the Hoxton house were J. B. Howe, Joe Reynolds, Edgar Newbound, Miss Pettifer, Elise Grey, Louisa Peach, Algernon Syms, Julia Summers, W. H. Perrette, Beatrice Toy, Beatrice Day, Joe Rowlands, and many more. During the latter years of his stay with Mrs. Lane the deceased veteran was the stage-manager of the house, and to those who had the privilege of going occasionally "behind," the old actor in the familiar smoking-cap—tasselled and tasteful—would chat pleasantly of the good old days. Before going to the Britannia he held stock engagements at the Standard and the Effingham, the two important rivals of the Britannia in the sixties.

Mr. Bigwood made his début at the old Brit. on July 1, 1862, as a comic domestic servant in "The Romance of a Poor Young Man," adapted from a novel by that prolific dramatist, C. H. Hazlewood, the stock author of the Hoxton house for many years. In the 1862-3 pantomime at the famous house, Tom Sayers, "the invulnerable," played second clown, and introduced his performing mules, Barney and Pete. It is recorded that

THE LATE MR. G. B. BIGWOOD.

the hero of the great historic battle at Farnborough with Heenan, the Benicia Boy (husband of Adah Isaacs Menken) suffered severely from stage fright. The production was "Abou Hassan, the Sleeper of Bagdad," and Mrs. Sara Lane, in the part of the hero, was supported in a trio by Mr. G. B. Bigwood and Mrs. W. R. Crawford, mother of the brothers Crawford, who carried on the theatre after the death of Mrs. Lane in 1899.

The Britannia Festival, which originated in the same year as Mr. Bigwood became one of the stock company, annually heralded the approach of the Christmas festivities. It was an institution that has passed away unfortunately, for it was quite unique, and did honour to actors and audience. The patrons of the Brit. showed their feeling of personal regard—affection were the better word—for those on the stage by substantial tokens of their gratitude, and the Festival was always a great night for all concerned. There was never a seat to be had, and the trade in savoury saveloys—an institution at the Brit.—was enormous. The last of these happy gatherings was in December, 1902. Bigwood was not then present. He spoke his last lines on the stage at the Brit. Festival in December, 1901. They were from the pen of Mr. Algernon Syms, the leading man and the Britannia poet-laureate for that year and many years previously. Mr. Bigwood, as representing the management of that period—Messrs. Crawford—came on to speak the final words, and thus to wind up the Festival. He said:—

Once more, my friends, I tread the dear old stage—
Which Time's not altered much, nor even age—
To thank you for the past, and promise you
That we've a treat in store—ay, nearly due.
All those who miss it must be cranky,
For nothing can come near our "Hanky. Panky."
And through me now they wish to all who're here
A Merry Christmas and "A Happy New Year!"

These were his last words on a stage with which he had been associated for forty years.

In 1903, when the stock company was disbanded, the veteran actor retired from the Britannia, and opened a tobacconist's and fancy shop at the foot of Pier Hill, at Southend. He is to be buried today at the Borough Cemetery, Southend, at three o'clock.

THE IBSEN CLUB.

A very interesting performance of "Little Eyolf" was given by the Ibsen Club at their studio in Long Acre on Sunday evening last before an appreciative audience, which filled all the space at their disposal. The play was produced by Miss Catherine Lewis. The part of the some-time tutor and now "detached" husband, Alfred Allmers, was earnestly played by Mr. Arthur Bachner, Miss Pax Robertson acting with emotional sincerity as the passion-torn wife, Rita. A clever little girl, Miss Joan Carr, took the part of the crippled Little Eyolf with intelligent pathos, and an eerie representation of the Rat Wife, who seemed to divine the mother's unexpressed wish to be rid of the little "interloper," was quite gruesomely given by Miss Gwen John. Miss C. Robertson's reading of the character of Asta Allmers was interesting, and touched with subdued and sympathetic intelligence. Mr. Edward Montagu gave a good account of the energetic "road-maker," Borgheim. Maeterlinck's "Mary Magdalene" will be given by the club on Feb. 23.

Mr. Frank E. Potter's new one-act play, "The Password," will be produced on Monday by Mr. John B. Shinton and company at the Avenue Theatre, Sunderland.

THE BENSON COMPANY AT THE CORONET.

This week another typical Shakespearean programme is presented by the F. R. Benson company, only one other piece by another author, the well-known classic, "She Stoops to Conquer," by Oliver Goldsmith, being presented on Wednesday evening. On Tuesday "Richard II." was given, Wednesday matinée was devoted to "As You Like It," Thursday to "Macbeth," and this (Saturday) afternoon "Richard II." will be staged, with "The Taming of the Shrew" in the evening. "A Midsummer Night's Dream," produced on Monday and repeated on Friday, is a very beautifully staged and admirably acted production. Mendelssohn's exquisite music is largely drawn upon, and many of the vocal gems are delightfully rendered by the singing fairy, Miss Marion Foreman, who is possessed of a sweet and sympathetic voice of considerable range. Special mention must be made of her rendition of "Over hill and over dale," "Where oxlips and the nodding violet grows"—this lovely floral fantasy being first beautifully declaimed by Oberon—the lullaby, "Come not near our Fairy Queen," and the finale of Act V., when Titania and Oberon, attended by Puck and the fairy attendant and the singing fairy, disport themselves in the dusk, after the departure of the hymeneal group and their retainers. The beauty of the scenes of the wood near Athens at night and Titania's bower are beyond the art of word-painting to describe. Mr. Rupert L. Conrick is a very fine figure of a man, and every inch a King, as Theseus, Duke of Athens, and speaks his lines with perfect grace and emphasis. Mr. F. R. Benson imparts many lively characteristic touches to the part of the luckless Lysander, and highly diverting is the comedy of errors caused by Puck's indiscreet use of the love philtre. Mr. Ambrose Flower as Demetrius is also an earnest and enthusiastic lover. Mr. Murray Carrington makes quite a classic Oberon, and it would be indeed difficult to improve upon his assumption in any particular. He appears handsome, fine-figured, and heroic, yet in a filmy, impalpable fashion, and his elocution is admirable. Miss Constance Pelissier is excellently well suited in the part of Titania, and creates a most agreeable impression. Miss Nora Nicholson as Puck is a delightfully eerie and mischievous young imp, and her dancing and that of Miss Violet Cecil as the fairy attendant is exactly in the flitting, will-o'-the-wisp fashion of fairyland. Of the artisan players, all the parts are most amusingly portrayed. Mr. Harry Caine as Bottom is excruciatingly funny when he endeavours to fathom and expound his magical translation. Mr. Baliol Holloway is particularly good as Quince, the carpenter; Snout the tinker and Starveling the tailor have able representatives in Mr. Jno. Maclean and Mr. Frank Cochrane. Mr. Mark Turner does well as Flute, and Mr. William Calvert contrives to make much of the part of Snug. Miss Dorothy Green and Miss Ethel McDowall are a graceful and charming pair of turtle doves as Hermia and Helena, and act with spirit and naïveté. Mr. Reginald Goode is Egeus, father of Hermia, and Miss Violet Hunter enacts the part of Hippolyta. Mr. Alfred Spaelson deserves much praise as musical-director for the excellent orchestration. Mr. F. Randle Ayrton, too, as stage-manager, has much to do with, no doubt, the excellent *tout ensemble*.

"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST" AT THE BRITANNIA.

[SECOND NOTICE.]

Mr. Morton Powell has certainly given visible proof of his desire to restore the famous Britannia to its former prosperity by putting on a capital pantomime, which has now run for over seven weeks, and would run for as long again but that arrangements necessitate its being taken off next week. On Monday the second edition of "Beauty and the Beast" was given, and it includes many new songs and jokes. Miss Maude Mortimer is a smart principal boy, and renders her songs, "Dixie," "Alexander's band," and "Oh, you beautiful doll," in a breezy fashion that is greatly admired. Miss Dorothy Harris, who has been playing Beauty with great charm for the last three weeks, is heard to great advantage in "Hitchy koo," and her elocution is meritorious. Mr. Will Johnson as the aged daughter of an impecunious baron, is extremely funny. He has revived an old favourite, "In a thousand years to come," followed by a clever eccentric dance. Messrs. Barrett and Knowles are the two principal comedians. Besides their really humorous acting, they mingle voices together very well in "Farmyard rag-time," a clever song. An acquisition to the pantomime is Mr. Ted Mooney, who as Barmy displays originality. Miss Aggie Nolan upholds family traditions very well. She has a charming appearance, and her rendering of "Mr. Cupid," followed by a dainty dance, is greatly appreciated. Mr. Dan Robson plays the part of the prince-beast with great feeling of expression, and a fine baritone song is given by him in the Palace scene, "The garden of my heart." A parody on "Excelsior," too, affords him and Mr. Will Johnson a fine opportunity of showing their vocal powers. Mr. William Rokeby gives a laughable impersonation of the penniless and melancholy Baron. Miss Rosie Dane enacts the part of Pretty Pette, a village maiden, with distinct charm. In "Beautiful doll" duet with Miss Mortimer her voice is heard with great enjoyment, and "I wish you belonged to me" is rendered with excellent spirit. Mr. Jack Snow makes a very fine Demon King, and sings a new number this week, "Hilarity," which shows his versatility. The part of Fairy Queen is capably undertaken by Miss Ena Sonta, who now has an extra song, "Come back to me," which should be as successful as her other number, "My heart is with you to-night." Miss Florence Turner gives evidence of low comedy gifts in the part of the elder daughter. Miss Lilly Purvis and Miss Estelle Desmond play very well as Sir Britannia Mettle and Lord Hoxton. Commendation is deserved by Mr. Harry Drury for the rose garden idea, which is a distinct novelty, and the electric lighting in this scene is out of the ordinary. The ballet speciality is well arranged by Mme. Leslie. Mme. Victor's Baby Brigade receive an ovation for their capital work. Three different numbers in costume are given at each performance by these tiny actresses, who are the pets of the pantomime. Mr. Walter Dunlo proves himself an expert in trap-door and mechanical scenery work, and the Leovilles are good acrobats. The Eight Brilliants now have their speciality act in full in the Rose Garden scene. In the Fairy Glen, too, they execute some pretty dances. The Four Zolas give some comedy acrobatic work in the finale which is appreciated. Mr. Fred Allwood has added some very refreshing tunes. Mr. Thompson as Mr. Powell's acting-manager has been pleased by the approbation given to the pantomime by various clubs and societies and the students from college and hospital.

We hope to be present as the guest of the Passenger Canvassing Staff of the Railway Companies, who will hold their ninth annual dinner at the Criterion Grand Hall on Saturday evening, March 1. As the chair will be taken by Mr. W. C. Simpson, the outdoor representative of Mr. Chas. Aldington, superintendent of the Great Western Railway, we feel sure that the Fourth Estate are in for a good time. It is expected the party will number over 200. Many of the representatives who will be present are well known in theatrical and music hall circles.

SHEFFIELD REPERTORY THEATRE.

The efforts of a band of local dramatic enthusiasts have finally resulted in the formation of the Sheffield Repertory Society, backed up by the support of the Playgoers' Society, with the Master Cutler (Mr. J. Rossiter Hoyle) as president, and on Monday the long-discussed scheme entered the region of practical politics when the conveniently situated Temperance Hall, redecorated and fitted up with a well-appointed stage, was opened to the public. An excellent company of sixteen artistes has been engaged, including Mr. Orlando Barnett, an actor who has had considerable dramatic experience with Sir Herbert Tree, Mr. Hermann Vezin, Miss Elizabeth Robins, and Mr. J. T. Grein at the Independent Theatre. He also made a London success at the Court Theatre in "Prunella." In addition to playing leading parts, Mr. Barnett has been appointed general-director and producer. Mr. Julian D'Albie, a Clare College man, has had considerable practice in Shakespearean plays and old comedy, and he will doubtless do good work in the plays that will be presented.

It is a big step from Gaiety burlesque to the "intellectual" drama, but Miss Florence Hunter, who began her theatrical career under the management of Mr. John Hollingshead when the "Sacred Lamp" was burning brightly in the Strand, is an actress with a wide range, and her experience with the late J. L. Toole, Sir John Hare (with whom she appeared as Charlotte in "A Pair of Spectacles" at the Garrick), and in such plays as "The Christian," "Lady Ursula," "Miss Hobbs," "Mme. Butterfly," and, latterly, with Miss Elizabeth Robins, will make her a valuable help to the enterprise.

Miss May Edward Saker, a member of the famous Liverpool family, has appeared with Sir George Alexander at the St. James's Theatre in "Paolo and Francesca," and she has also won distinction with Mr. Martin Harvey, Mr. Granville Barker, Mr. William Poel, and Miss Horniman. Miss Dora Race, a young artiste trained in the practical school of Mr. F. R. Benson, is a delightful actress, and Miss Dora Dent, who, for six years, was with Mr. George Edwardes's company, has also supported Miss Marie Tempest and Miss Ethel Irving, and she has comedy talents of a high order.

Another excellent member is the scholarly Mr. John Beamish, who has graduated under the several managements of Miss Ellen Terry, Mr. Fred Terry, Mr. Herbert Trench, Miss Neilson, Mr. Wm. Poel, &c., at the Lyric, New, Lyceum, and Haymarket Theatres. A thoroughly experienced stage-manager has been engaged in the person of Mr. Alex. Crichton, who has been associated with Miss Marriott, Mr. Walter Bentley, Mr. Cyril Maude, and Mr. Forbes Robertson. The list of plays for the first month includes: "The Importance of Being Earnest" (played on the first night), "Chains," by E. Baker; "The Return of the Prodigal," by St. John Hankin; "Anatol Episode," by Schnitzler; "The Interior," by Maeterlinck; "The Convict on the Hearth," by F. Fenn; "Admiral Guinea," by Stevenson and Henley; and "Cupid and the Styx," by S. Martin. Mr. R. D. Bennett is hon. secretary, and the committee numbers several influential personages who are fond of the drama, and Mr. J. T. Grein and Mr. B. Iden Payne are the hon. literary advisers.

There was a large and thoroughly representative audience on Monday, and a finished performance of Oscar Wilde's brilliant comedy, "The Importance of Being Earnest," gave the liveliest satisfaction to all present. In fact, several doubters were won over to the cause, and at the finish professed their strong belief in the successful future of the Sheffield Repertory Society. Mr. Orlando Barnett's John Worthing was a finished and thoroughly artistic interpretation of a difficult rôle. The perfect naturalness of the reading showed Mr. Barnett a master of the "art which conceals art," and at the finish he was recalled repeatedly. Another delightful experience was the Cecily Cardew of Miss Glory Shannon, who at once established herself as a favourite with a critical audience. A clever bit of modern portraiture was the Lady Bracknell of Miss Maud Kirwan. Mr. John Beamish gave an excellent rendition of the character of Lane. Mr. Frank Snell's Canon, Mr. Everard Vanderlip's Moncrieff, and Mr. Julian D'Albie's Merryman were interesting types; and Miss May Saker and Miss Lily Fraser were good in their respective rôles. The mise-en-scène was adequate, and a perfectly smooth performance reflected credit on Mr. Orlando Barnett (producer) and Mr. Alex Crichton (stage-manager). The comfort of the audience was well looked after by the courteous and hard-working honorary secretary (Mr. R. D. Bennett) and the business-manager (Mr. Bertram Hosier).

At the end of the comedy, Mr. Rossiter Hoyle (the Master Cutler) came on the stage and heartily congratulated the artistes and the society on the admirable performance submitted. He thought that their efforts would help forward the movement in favour of better plays. He hoped that the Sheffield Society would be a great success, and that they would be in a position to have a theatre of their own eventually, for they wanted to show the country, and those people who dubbed them "faddists," that the Sheffield Society had serious aims for the betterment of the theatre generally, and that in this cause they in Sheffield were not going to be behind other cities of the United Kingdom.

Mr. Orlando Barnett also made an eloquent speech, and said that in London there was not a real necessity for the repertory movement, as the playgoer there could see a different play every night. Generally speaking, that was not so in the provinces. The Sheffield Playgoers' Society had originated the movement here, and for their "sporting efforts" the actors could not help but thank the members for their untiring exertions.

Afterwards the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, Mr. and Mrs. Martin Harvey, and a brilliant company were the guests of the Master and Mistress Cutler to supper at the Grand Hotel. The Lord Mayor proposed "The Success of the Repertory Season" in a thoughtful and congratulatory speech. The Master Cutler gave the toast of "The Drama," which was responded to by Mr. Martin Harvey, who warmly acknowledged the compliment paid him, and congratulated Sheffield on the turn of the tide in favour of good drama.

"The Importance of Being Earnest" was repeated on Tuesday and Wednesday; and on Thursday "Chains" was presented.

A most successful matinée was given at the Theatre Royal, Glasgow, on Friday, the 7th inst., in aid of the Maternity and Women's Hospital. In addition to all the principals of the Royal's own pantomime company, Miss Phyllis Monkman and Mr. Tom Foy came from Edinburgh; Misses Marie Blanche and Isabelle Dillon, and Messrs. Gordon Cleather, Harry Ray, Jo Monkhouse, and Eric Thorne, from the "Princess Caprice" company; Miss Daisy Dormer and Mr. Jay Laurier from the Grand pantomime; Mr. Graham Moffat from the Alhambra; Rinaldo from the Pavilion; and the Scottish Orchestra, under Mr. Emil Mlynarski, also appeared.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP

Sir Herbert Tree has decided upon the successor to "Drake" at His Majesty's. It is to be Mr. James Bernard Fagan's adaptation of "Prophet Percival," a four-act drama, by the Hungarian playwright, Lengyel, the English title of which is to be "The White Man's Burden." The action of the piece takes the spectator to an island in the South Pacific, where some stirring scenes result from the hero's eventual decision to take upon his own shoulders the burden he had intended the natives to bear. Miss Phyllis Neilson-Terry will again be Sir Herbert's leading lady, and an important part will also be entrusted to Mr. Norman M'Kinnel.

Sir Herbert has generously offered His Majesty's Theatre for a matinée in aid of the Fund for a National Memorial in honour of Captain Scott and his brave companions, which has been started by the "Daily Telegraph," and the scheme has met with hearty response from Sir George Alexander, Mr. George Edwardes, Mr. Arthur Collins, Mr. Arthur Bourchier, Mr. Frederick Harrison, Mr. Cyril Maude, Mr. Frank Curzon, Mr. Arthur Chudleigh, Mr. Gerald du Maurier, and Messrs. A. and S. Gatti.

Sir George Alexander will this evening revive at the St. James's a former splendid success in the late Oscar Wilde's comedy, "The Importance of Being Earnest." Sir George's former part of John Worthing will be played by Mr. Gerald Ames. Mr. A. E. Matthews will be the Algernon Moncrieffe, and Mr. E. Vivian Reynolds the Rev. Canon Chasuble. Miss Rosalie Toller will be Cecily Cardew, Miss Helen Rous Lady Bracknell, and Miss Dorothy Fane the Hon. Gwendolen Fairfax. Others in the cast will be Mr. Austin Fehrman, Mr. Alfred Harris, and Miss Alice Beet.

Mr. Forbes-Robertson has decided on the programme for the first week of his limited season at Drury Lane, constituting his last appearance in London. Following his revival of "Hamlet" for the opening night on Saturday, March 22, which, owing to the heavy strain, he can only play alternately, Forbes-Robertson has decided to revive the "Passing of the Third Floor Back" in conjunction with and followed by "The Sacrament of Judas" (in both of which plays he and Miss Gertrude Elliott will appear) on Easter Monday evening. This double bill will be alternated on successive nights by "Hamlet," which latter play will be given on Saturday afternoon, March 29, and be replaced that night by the "Passing of the Third Floor Back," followed by "The Sacrament of Judas." The programme for the second week will be duly announced, and it is probable that each Monday evening of his short season a new play, or, rather, revival, will be introduced.

Messrs. Gerald du Maurier and Frank Curzon, carrying out a suggestion made by Sir Squire Bancroft, have settled that "Diplomacy," the English version by Clement Scott and B. C. Stephenson of Sardou's "Dora," shall follow "Doormats" at Wyndham's. "Diplomacy" has a very interesting history. "Stephenson, Bancroft, and I," wrote the late Clement Scott in his "Drama of Yesterday and To-day," "saw Sardou's 'Dora' in Paris. We agreed that, if carefully handled, there might be a little fortune in it. We also agreed to make it an English play. Stephenson helped the scheme with his Treasury, Foreign Office, and private secretary experiences. The happy thought came to me of the 'Jingo' element, the tracings of the Constantinople fortifications, and the Imperialist tone to which Mr. Brander Matthews and other critics so much object. Bancroft's advice was invaluable on every possible occasion. . . . I did all the writing, and Bancroft did all the editing, act by act and scene by scene, in consultation, of course, with his brilliantly clever wife, who subsequently introduced the 'Clock Scene at Berne,' which is her own invention and writing." Scott also gave a very amusing account of the actual collaboration in an article in one of the "Era Annuals."

The original cast of "Diplomacy" at the old Prince of Wales's, in 1878, included Sir Squire and Lady Bancroft, Mr. and Mrs. Kendal, Mr. Arthur Cecil, Mr. John Clayton, Mr. Charles Sugden, and Miss Le Thiere. At the revival at the Haymarket under the Bancroft *régime* it was played, in addition to the Bancrofts, by Mr. Forbes Robertson, Mr. Maurice Barrymore, Mr. Charles Brookfield, Mrs. Bernard Beere, and Miss Eleanor Calhoun; and at the Garrick revival in 1893, the Bancrofts appeared as Count Orloff and Lady Henry Fairfax, and Mr. Forbes Robertson was the Julian Beauclerc, Mr. (now Sir John) Hare, the Henry Beauclerc, Mr. Arthur Cecil the Baron Stein, Miss Olga Nethersole the Countess Zicka, Miss Kate Rorke the Dora, and Lady Monckton the Marquise de Rio-Zarès. At Wyndham's Mr. du Maurier will play Henry Beauclerc.

Mrs. Bernard Beere, who had expected to return to the stage early this year, has been seriously ill and confined to her room for six weeks, and though she is slightly better, her condition gives some cause for anxiety.

The huge cabinet which Garrick used for holding his stock plays at old Drury Lane Theatre will soon be for sale. It has tall, fluted columns and panels painted with the Muses in grisaille, and was made by Garrick's stage-carpenter and scene-painter. It will be put up at Christie's in the sale of the late Sir Whittaker Ellis's property on Thursday.

The Lyceum pantomime, "The Forty Thieves," ends its successful run to-night. On Wednesday Messrs. Walter and Frederick Melville will produce a four-act drama, entitled "Nell Gwynne," dealing with the career of that popular person. In the cast are: Mr. Lauderdale Maitland, as Charles II.; Mr. Wilmot Jackson, as Lord Villiers; Mr. Fred Ingram, Mr. Frank Harvey, Mr. Hal Charlton, Mr. Fred Morgan, Mr. C. F. Collings, Mr. Austen Milroy, Mr. J. T. Macmillan, Miss Kitty Ricimer, and Miss Tittell-Brune, who will play the heroine.

Mr. Lyn Harding returns to England the first week in June, but will not appear in "Years of Discretion," the comedy he is now making a big success in at the Belasco Theatre, New York, when that piece is done in London.

The cast of "Lady Noggs," the comedy in three acts, by Cicely Hamilton, adapted from the story by Edgar Jepson, which Mr. Arthur Chudleigh will product at the Comedy Theatre to-night, includes: Mr. Lyle, Mr. E. Evan Thomas, Mr. Ashton-Pearse, Mr. Lewis Fielder, Mr. Kenneth Kent, Mr. Arthur Grenville, Mr. Reyne Barton, Mr. Edgar B. Payne, Miss Mary Glynne, Mrs. Saba Raleigh, Miss Mary Mackenzie, Miss Kitty Cavendish, Miss May Warley, and Miss Margaret Chute.

The principal parts of "Oh! Oh! Delphine!" which Mr. Robert Courtneidge will produce at the Shaftesbury on Tuesday, will be played by Mr. Courtice Pounds, Mr. Conningsby Brierley, Mr. Charles Chambier, Mr. Harry Welchman, Mr. Walter Passmore, Miss Iris Hoey, Miss Winifred Delvante, Miss Dorothy Jardon, Mr. Fred Lewis, Miss Nan Stuart, Miss Cissie Debenham, Mr. Fred Evison, Mr. Reginald Owen, and Miss Violet Gould.

Mr. Percy Hutchison brought his first week's visit to the Winter Gardens to a close on Saturday evening amidst a scene of great enthusiasm. "Brewster's Millions," with the wonderful ship scene and effects, caused quite a sensation in New Brighton, and although the business is always good at the Winter Gardens, Mr. Hutchison had the pleasure of breaking the record on Saturday night. At the conclusion of the performance, and after the curtain had been raised several times, there were loud and persistent calls for a speech, and Mr. Hutchison stepped forward and said: "I must thank you for the splendid way in which you have received the company and myself during the week. I feel greatly pleased in breaking all records of the theatre this evening, and I intend to visit the Winter Gardens frequently in the future." He hoped to have the pleasure of meeting them again in August, when he returned with "Brewster," and later he proposed to present "Officer 666," the latest London success which he had secured; also "Arsène Lupin." He wished to heartily thank Mr. Douglass and Mr. Jones for their courteous treatment and tactful management. "It only shows," said Mr. Hutchison, "how successful a theatre can be by personal management." Mr. Hutchison's speech was received with much applause, especially when he mentioned he was returning several times to New Brighton.

At the meeting of the Executive Committee of the Actors' Orphanage Fund, held on Tuesday, the following members were present:—Mr. C. Aubrey Smith (in the chair), Miss Lilian Braithwaite, Miss Phyllis Broughton, Miss Sydney Fairbrother, Miss Constance Hyem, Mr. Edmund Gwenn, Mr. Dawson Milward, Mr. Arthur Wontner, Miss Eady (the matron), Mr. Anslow J. Austin (hon. secretary).

Miss Susie Vaughan, we hear, made a great success as Martha in the revival of Sir Gilbert Parker's dramatic version of Goethe's "Faust" at the Theatre Royal, Sydney. The local Press were warm in their praise; and one paper said: "Martha, as pictured by Miss Susie Vaughan, was one of the best bits of comedy acting of that class that has been seen here for some time."

Mr. Edmund Payne, the famous Gaiety comedian, who is about to enter upon management on his own account, is credited with having made his first bow to the public at Leighton Buzzard years ago in the capacity of snowball in a pantomime. His experience on that occasion was anything but pleasant, inasmuch as he rolled into the footlights and was very nearly roasted. Off the stage, Mr. Payne is never happier than when digging in what he calls his backyard, while yet another side of his versatile talents finds illustration in the flower-painted panels, the bamboo chairs and overmantels, and other decorative adornments of his private residence.

Mr. Wentworth Croke has, after much difficult negotiation, induced Miss Kittee Rayburn to return to her old love, the Lyric Opera House, Hammersmith, next Christmas, when she will make her farewell to the stage as Ganem in "The Forty Thieves," a part that should suit her like the proverbial glove.

Mr. George Edwardes has just engaged two extremely promising pupils of Mme. Kate Flinn, the well-known professor of singing and elocution—Miss Lily Clare, with a voice of beautiful quality, and Miss Beryl Miller, an excellent soprano.

Mr. W. W. Kelly, we are glad to hear, is making satisfactory progress towards recovery from the result of his late accident. His leg has been put in plaster-of-Paris, and the doctors are hopeful of a speedy cure.

A football match in aid of the Actors' Orphanage Association was played at Stafford on Tuesday between Mr. Geo. Dance's company appearing at the Playhouse in "The Quaker Girl" and the Stafford Post Office team. The theatricals showed splendid form. So well did they play that the locals were defeated by no fewer than nine goals to love. Messrs. S. A. Welch (centre-forward) and W. Kibble (captain) did especially well, and they each scored three goals. Messrs. Jack Gray, Bobbie Dunn, and Jack Harvey obtained the remaining points. Miss Elfie Vincent, whose impersonation of Prudence is simply delightful, kicked off, and after the interval Mrs. Evelyn Thomas (lessee of the Playhouse) set the ball in motion. A collection was made by lady members of the company, and this, together with the "gate," realised about £3 10s.

The Stage Society will produce at the Aldwych Theatre, on Monday afternoon, "The Brothers Karamazov," a drama in five acts, by Jacques Copeau and Jean Croué, from Dostoievski, translated by Christopher St. John, and produced by Frederick Whelen. The cast includes Mr. Allan Wade, Mr. Ralph Hutton, Mr. Owen Roughwood, Mr. Shiel Barry, Mr. Francis Roberts, Mr. Henry Willoughby, Mr. Charles Bishop, Mr. Robert Farquharson, Miss Hilda Antony, Miss Florence Harwood, Miss Miriam Lewes, Mr. James Skea, Mr. C. Herbert Hewetson, Mr. H. B. Waring, Mr. Tom Ronald, Mr. Val Cuthbert, Mr. H. Cannon George, Miss Norah Beresford, Miss Susan Richmond, and Mr. Benedict Butler.

Mr. Granville Barker has addressed the following interesting letter to Mr. Keble Howard (joint-director, with Mr. Dick Adams, of the Croydon Répertory Theatre):—"Dear Mr. Keble Howard,—The very heading on your notepaper ought to send a thrill of delight through every playgoer in Croydon. I am sure that no playgoer in Manchester or Liverpool, to whom play-going is anything more than an excuse for not going to sleep after dinner (not even for that sometimes—it only amounts to a change of armchair), could bear to imagine their cities again without the Repertory Theatres there. Yoick the Croydon playgoers out, and lead them to your theatre once a week regularly, as I am sure you will. Better for them, good for the English drama, and better, I do seriously think, for the whole of English social life.—Yours very faithfully, H. Granville Barker."

Sir Herbert Tree made the interesting statement at the supper in connection with the ball given by the Actors' Association at the King's Hall, Holborn Restaurant, on the 7th inst., that the King had consented that the proceeds from the gala performance which was given at His Majesty's Theatre in Coronation year should form the nucleus of a fund to be called King George's Pension Fund, the object of which is "to provide and pay annuities to British actors and actresses who have rendered such services to the profession as to merit recognition, or who through altered circumstances are in a position to require such assistance."

The King has also approved of a suggestion that in each year a performance similar to the gala performance should take place at one or other of our West-End theatres, and that the proceeds of these performances should go to further augment the King George Pension Fund. This year the performance will take place at Sir George Alexander's theatre, and the play presented will be "London Assurance," a piece which will at any rate be an "object lesson" on the improvement of the British drama since the days of Boucicault.

"The Prisoner of Zenda" is to be the attraction next week at Kelly's Theatre, Liverpool. The drama, which has not been seen in Liverpool for some years, will be played by Mr. D. Forbes Russell's company, the cast of which includes Mr. Fred D. Davies, Miss Dorothy Overend, Mr. Arthur Gibbons, and Mr. Charles Leighton.

Next Tuesday afternoon, at Kelly's Theatre, the huge benefit matinée, under the auspices of the Liverpool Theatrical Gala Committee, is to be given in aid of the local medical and professional charities. The performance will be under the patronage, and in the presence, of the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Liverpool, and the Mayor and Mayoress of Birkenhead. Mr. W. W. Kelly and his energetic lieutenant, Mr. Reginald Grant, have organised a monster programme, among the contributors being Wilkie Bard, Ernie Mayne, Dorothy Ward, Maidie Scott, Lily Morris, Shaun Glenville, Topsy Sinden, May Moore Duprez, Daisy Wood, Fred Allandale, Gladys Mavius, the Four Ascots, James A. Watts, Dion Wade, Charles Norton, Daisy May, Lauri Howard, the Twelve Sunshine Girls, the Four Royal Scots, Annie Heenan, the members of "The Prisoner of Zenda" company, and Edith Cole and J. H. Roberts in "He, She, and It."

The Moody-Manners Opera company's season, extending over two weeks, commences at the New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead, next Monday evening. The company is identical with that which recently achieved a record success at Kelly's Theatre, Liverpool. The programme is as follows: Monday, Gounod's "Faust"; Tuesday, Bizet's "Carmen"; Wednesday, Mendelssohn's "Elijah" (the operaticised version); Thursday afternoon, Verdi's "Il Trovatore"; Thursday evening, Balfe's "The Bohemian Girl"; Friday, Saint-Saëns' "Samson and Delilah"; and Saturday evening, Benedict's "The Lily of Killarney." Mr. Charles Manners has specially engaged Mlle. De Lussan, in addition to her appearance as Carmen, to sing the rôle of Delilah on Friday evening.

Remarkable scenes were witnessed at Kelly's Theatre, Liverpool, last week, when Mr. Oswald Cray's new play, "The Mormon and His Wives," was making its second appearance in that city in four months. Hundreds were unable to gain admission every night, and on Saturday night the theatre was packed before the advertised time to open the early doors. Between the acts one member of the audience made a speech, and asked Mr. Kelly to get Mr. Cray and his company to return soon for two weeks to enable the thousands that had been turned away that week to see it. It is interesting to note that this play makes its first appearance in London on Feb. 24 for a two weeks' run at the Elephant and Castle Theatre.

At the Higher (Teachers') Examinations of Trinity College of Music, held in the United Kingdom last month and in India and the Dominions in 1912, the total number of candidates examined was 972, and the pass list includes two fellows, ninety-two licentiates, and 302 associates. Examinations were held in London, Bristol, Manchester, Sheffield, and Glasgow; also at various centres in Australia, Tasmania, New Zealand, South Africa, and India, and at Rangoon in Burma.

The annual conference of the British Empire Shakespeare Society was held at His Majesty's Theatre on the 7th inst., under the presidency of Her Highness Princess Marie Louise of Schleswig-Holstein, when those present included the following members of the council: Sir George Alexander, Mr. Arthur Bourchier, Mr. Alan Mackinnon, and Mr. Acton (general director). Also present were Lord Kingsburgh (president of the Edinburgh branch), Mr. A. D. Flower (chairman of the Memorial Theatre, Stratford-on-Avon), Major Drury (Plymouth branch), Miss Hawkes (Lady-in-Waiting to Her Highness), and a record attendance of branch delegates from Birmingham, Brighton, Brentwood, Chelsea, Cheltenham, Ealing, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Leamington, New Cross, Norwood, Plymouth, Ripon, Sheffield, Stratford-on-Avon, Uxbridge, and Worcestershire. Sir Herbert Tree, one of the vice-presidents, was unable to be present owing to the Boy Scouts' matinée.

The members of Mr. George Edwardes' company in "Gipsy Love" at present appearing at the Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh, lately started a golf club. At a meeting held on the stage after the performance on Friday last the following officers were elected:—President, Mr. J. Garrett Todd; vice-president, Mr. Leonard Mackay; committee, Messrs. Lauri de Frece, W. Spray, A. Derrick, J. Bates, and Miss Gertrude Gould; hon. secretary, Mr. A. Derrick; treasurer, Mr. Jack Bates. Two cups are to be competed for, presented by Mr. J. Garrett Todd and Mr. Lauri de Frece. Mr. William Spray has presented a booby prize.

On Saturday night at the termination of the run of the pantomime, "Mother Hubbard," at the Grand Theatre, Glasgow, Mr. Geo. Conquest, jun., who has been playing the part of the dog Fido, was presented with a handsome ring by Miss Daisy Dormer.

"Bought and Paid For," the play by George Broadhurst, which has been one of New York's chief successes this season, will be produced at the New Theatre on March 5. The article of commerce to which the title has reference is the wife of a wealthy man who, having "bought and paid for" her, considers he has a right to exact entire obedience despite the way in which he behaves himself. The part will be played by Mr. Allan Aynesworth, and that of the wife, who in the end rebels, will be sustained by Miss Alexandra Carlisle. Miss Alice Crawford will also be in the cast.

"Little Miss Llewelyn" will be succeeded at the Vaudeville by a revival of Sir Arthur Pinero's farce "The Schoolmistress," which was produced at the Court over a quarter of a century ago. Mr. Edmund Gwenn and Miss Hilda Trevelyan will both play in the revival, and will be supported by Miss Winifred Emery, who has been secured for Mrs. John Wood's old part, Miss Muriel Martin Harvey, Miss Nell Carter, Miss Gwynne Herbert, Miss Lilian Mason, Miss Chrissie Bell, and Mr. Ronald Squire.

At a meeting of the committee of the Managers' Club held on Feb. 7 the following gentlemen were duly elected members: Mr. Fred. W. Pearce, Mr. Jack Parson, and Mr. H. Trenly Birch. Mr. William Giffard was co-opted a member of the committee. An entrance fee will be imposed on and after March 28.

Mr. William J. Miller has been engaged by Mr. Alfred Paumier for the part of the Crown Prince in "The Midnight Wedding," and has also been re-engaged by Mr. Walter Howard for the part of Baron Strelzer on the suburban tour of "The Lifeguardsman."

Miss Lily Elsie has ridden to hounds after only seven lessons, and has been taking some big jumps. Since her marriage, fifteen months ago, to Mr. Ian Bullough, Miss Elsie has developed into a clever and enthusiastic sportswoman. She is also an expert fly-fisher, having landed a 15lb. salmon without help.

IBSEN AT THE HAYMARKET.

On Thursday, February 13, for the first time, a translation by William Archer, of "Kongsemnerne," an Historic Drama, in Five Acts, by Henrik Ibsen, entitled

"THE PRETENDERS."

Hakon Hakonsson ..... Mr. Basil Gill
Inga of Varteig ..Miss Yvonne Q. Orchardson
Dagfinn Bonde .....Mr. Montagu Love
Earl Skule ..... Mr. Laurence Irving
Lady Ragnhild ..... Miss Helen Haye
Sigrid ..... Miss Tita Brand
Margrete ..... Miss Netta Westcott
Nicholas Arnesson ..... Mr. William Haviland
Sira Villiam .....Mr. Henry Hargreaves
Ivar Bodde ..... Mr. Henry Crocker
Master Sigard of Brabant .. Mr. Frank Ridley
Guthorm Ingeeson ..... Mr. Robin Shiells
Gregorius Jonsson ..... Mr. Ewan Brook
Paul Flida ..... Mr. E. A. Warburton
Chief Bratte ..... Mr. Allan Jeayes
Jatgeir Skald ..... Mr. Guy Rathbone
Ingeborg ..... Miss Madge McIntosh
Peter ..... Mr. E. Ion Swinley

"The Pretenders," as Mr. William Archer has informed us in his preface to his excellent translation, is to a great extent autobiographical; that is to say, Ibsen partly found and partly invented an historic parallel between his own lot and character and those of Björnson, and the careers of two rival pretenders to the Norwegian throne in the 13th century.

The book of "Kongsemnerne" was published in October, 1863, and the play was produced at the Christiania Theatre, under the author's own supervision, on January 17, 1864. In January, 1871, it was revived at the Royal Theatre, Copenhagen. It was performed by the Meiningen company, and at the Munich Hoftheatre in 1875, in Stockholm in 1879, at the Königliches Schauspielhaus, Berlin, and at the Vienna Burgtheatre in 1891; and it has from time to time been acted at many other Scandinavian and German theatres.

"The Pretenders" is a fine, but uneven play. Up to the end of the third act the interest is strong, steady, and unfailing, and Ibsen's elevation of thought and the high plane on which the piece is conceived have their full effect on the audience. In the fourth the story begins to faint and wander, and there is much noise and physical riot; and the last act becomes positively tedious. When we add that the best-drawn personage in the piece dies in the third act, and only appears as a rather loquacious and prosy ghost in the last, the fact that Sir Henry Irving did not produce "The Pretenders" at the Lyceum is easily accounted for.

The two "aspirants" to the crown of Norway are Hakon Hakonsson, a hero of wide views and disinterested aims, and Skule Bardsonn, a man barren of ideas, but of great jealousy and ambition. The Norwegian "Bunty" who "pulls the strings" which move these two personages, is a certain Nicholas Arnesson, a Bishop, whose character is disclosed in the following passages of self-revelation:—

"I would be king; but I must needs be a chieftain first. Then came the battle at Hevoldene; 'twas the first time I went out to war. The sun went up, and glittering lightnings flashed from a thousand burnished blades. Magnus and all his men advanced as to a game; I alone felt a tightness at my heart. Fiercely our host swept forward; but I could not follow—I was afraid! Ay, King, I was afraid. A coward, a coward—and yet was I filled with longing to be a chief, to be a king; nay, I felt I was born to be King. I could have furthered God's kingdom upon earth; but 'twas the saints themselves that barred the way for me. . . . Ay, I have hated much; hated every head in this land that raised itself above the crowd. But I hated because I could not love. Fair women—oh, I could devour them even now with glistening eyes! I have lived eighty years, and yet do I yearn to kill men and clasp women—but my lot in love was as my lot in war, nought but an itching will, my strength sapped from my birth; dowered with seething desire, and yet a weakling! So I became a priest: king or priest must that man be who would have all might in his hands."

This interesting personage—a Richard of Gloucester without the "crook-back's" physical pluck—gets possession of a letter which would settle the question of Hakon Hakonsson's birth and legitimate right to the crown of Norway. The Bishop falls ill, and is on the point of death. He is implored by Earl Skule, Hakon's rival, to give up the letter; but the Bishop is determined to leave the State of Norway in a condition of "perpetual motion." Thus he soliloquises on his death-bed, after his physician has acknowledged that he is powerless to prolong the Bishop's life:—

"The miserable hound—what boots all his learning, when he cannot add an hour to my life? There sits he in his closet day by day, piecing together his cunning wheels and weights, and levers; he thinks to fashion a machine that shall go and go and never stop—*perpetuum mobile*, he calls it. Why not rather turn his art and his skill to making man such a *perpetuum mobile*? [*Stops and thinks; his eyes light up.*] *Perpetuum mobile*—I am not strong in Latin, but it means somewhat that has power to work eternally, through all the ages. If I myself, now, could but——? That were a deed to end my life withal! That were to do my greatest deed in my latest hour! To set wheel and weight and lever at work in the King's soul and the Duke's; to set them a-going so that no power on earth can stop them; if I can but do that, then shall I live indeed, live in my work—and, when I think of it, mayhap 'tis that which is called immortality. Comfortable, soothing thoughts, how ye do the old man good! [*Draws a deep breath, and stretches himself comfortably upon the couch.*]"

In pursuance of this policy, the Bishop gets Skule to burn before his—the Bishop's—eyes a paper which the crafty Nicholas pretends is a list of his enemies. Then he tells Skule that it is the all-important letter, and expires exultant.

In the following acts Skule breaks with Hakon, and proclaims himself King; but he is an introspective and self-questioning character, worried by the want of ideas, and of a son. The desired youth appears in the person of one Peter, the offspring of an old intrigue between Skule and a married woman named Ingelborg. This young man, by his hasty action in attacking a certain much-venerated shrine, offends the *parti prêtre*, and outrages popular prejudices; and, in the end, Hakon having doomed his father-in-law to death, Skule and Peter are cut down and killed, and Hakon is left free to do his king's work.

A play containing such masterly passages as those which we have quoted cannot fail to exact respect, and its production on the London stage is an important artistic event; but the facts we have mentioned make "The Pretenders" wearisome in the end to an English audience. In Norway, we believe, the nights are longer, and the audiences more enduring. Much may be done, however, by judicious cutting; if, indeed, reverence for the work of the deceased "master" does not stay the sacrilegious hand armed with the beneficent blue pencil.

The revival certainly afforded the strong company which Mr. Frederick Harrison has selected some excellent opportunities. Mr. Basil Gill gave a noble exposition of the part of Hakon Kakonsson, looking every inch a king of men, and speaking his lines with fine fervour and admirable spirit and earnestness. Mr. Laurence Irving's rôle of Earl Skule suited the reflective, analytic nature of his genius exactly, and his depiction of the Earl's hesitancy and self-doubt in the fourth act was a most intellectual and artistic achievement. He was very strong and strenuous in the bolder passages of the part. The character of Nicholas Arnesson had an acute exponent in Mr. William Haviland, who did full justice to the grim irony of the rôle, as well as to its intensity, his death scene being both ironic and impressive. Mr. Montagu Love did some fine bold, vigorous work as Dagfinn Bonde, and Miss Netta Westcott as Margrete sang a lullaby charmingly, and took full advantage of her acting opportunities, which improved as the piece proceeded. Mr. E. Ion Swinley was fervently enthusiastic and very picturesque as Peter; and Miss Madge McIntosh was pathetically emotional as Ingeborg, Miss Yvonne Q. Orchardson playing Inga of Varteig with much judgment and feeling, Miss Helen Haye being excellent in every way as Lady Ragnhild and Miss Tita Brand making a sweet and sympathetic Sigrid. A high level of care and ability was attained by Mr. Henry Hargreaves as Sira Villiam, Mr. Henry Crocker as Ivan Bodde, Mr. Frank Ridley as Master Sigard, and the other representatives of the noblemen and warriors of Norway. Mr. Norman O'Neill's incidental music was appropriately weird and wild; the scenery, designed by S. H. Sime and Joseph Harker, and painted by Joseph Harker, was interesting in its reproduction of old Norwegian interiors; and the costumes, designed by S. H. Sime, and executed by L. and H. Nathan, were quaint and characteristic.

TRIPLE BILL AT THE DUKE OF YORK'S.

"Peter Pan" has flown from the Duke of York's—to return again next Christmas, let us hope—but that subtle humorist, J. M. Barrie, is still represented on the programme, his delightful little one-act piece, "The Twelve-Pound Look," being the concluding play of the triple bill now being presented by Mr. Charles Frohman and Mr. Frederick Harrison. Miss Kate Moffat, the popular Bunty, now appears in the all-important part of Kate, and if her portrayal lacks the depth and acuteness given it by her predecessors, it is a very charming and quietly humorous one. Especially good is Miss Moffat in the incident where she explains to Sir Harry why she left him, and the touch of pathos necessary is cleverly suggested. Mr. A. G. Poulton now plays the pompous and confident Sir Harry—a richly humorous performance; and Miss Cicely Hamilton exactly realises the crushed and unhappy Lady Sims.

Stanley Houghton's clever comedy, "The Younger Generation," transferred from the Haymarket, is the principal play of the evening, and those who love a good laugh should on no account miss this amusing and perfectly acted piece. Mr. Stanley Drewitt repeats his finished performance of the would-be stern but irresolute and finnicking father; Miss Ada King gives a most natural portrayal of his submissive wife; Mr. Lyonel Watts gives a very amusing and easy impersonation of Reggy; Miss Caroline Bayley and Mr. J. Woodhall-Birde are again seen as Grace and Arthur, and one could not imagine the parts better played; and the sympathetic and broad-minded uncle is still cleverly undertaken by Mr. Nigel Playfair. Mrs. Crowe as the stern and obstinate old grandmother, and Mr. Cyril Cunningham, Mr. Luke Forster, Mr. Norman Page and Miss Hilda Davies in other parts all contribute valuably to the success of this delightfully written and human play, which was given a most gratifying reception on the night of our visit.

The first piece of the evening was also in the Haymarket triple bill—William J. Locke's bright little comedy, "An Adventure of Aristide Pujol." Mr. Leon M. Lion as the irrepressible and jaunty little Frenchman again gave a most laughable and adroit performance; Mr. Fewlass Llewellyn as the bumptiously British and artful Mr. Smith could not be improved upon; Mr. Creagh Henry was a polished M. Poiron; and Mr. J. Woodhall-Birde, Mr. G. Dickson Kenwin, Miss Angela Lee Lewis, and Miss Anne Carew were excellent in other parts. Altogether a full and most entertaining bill, the intervals between the pieces and the acts being commendably short.

The delay in opening the West-End Playhouse, Glasgow, is likely to raise a heavy claim for damages, as Mr. Graham Moffat and his company should have appeared there for four weeks, commencing at Christmas, and the present boom in Scotch plays, with the added drawings of New Year matinées, makes his loss a serious item.

The closing night of the pantomime, "Mother Hubbard," at the Grand Theatre, Glasgow, on Saturday was a great triumph for the artistes. An enthusiastic audience showered floral and other presents on Misses Daisy Dormer, Mabel Medrow, Gwennie Harcourt, Rosie Chandler, and Dolly Payne; and the comedians were not forgotten, Messrs. Jay Laurier, Harry Conlin, Charley Harvey, and the Griffiths Brothers being all the recipients of gifts of more or less intrinsic value. At the end, in response to demands, Mr. Jay Laurier thanked the audience for their goodwill.

"All's Well That Ends Well," which has not been performed in central London since 1852, when it was revived by Phelps at Sadler's Wells, will be given as a dramatic reading by the British Empire Shakespeare Society (for the first time) in the Botanical Theatre, University College, Gower-street, W.C., on Monday afternoon, March 3, with an important cast, under the direction of Mr. Acton Bond.

The dramatic section of the Mayfair School of Music has recently been enriched by the appointment to the staff of Mrs. F. R. Benson, who has now decided to reside in London for the purpose of training students for the stage. Another appointment is that of Mr. Bassett Roe, whose work, with that of Miss Ellen Terry and Miss Edith Craig, will make the section of elocution and drama one of the greatest value and importance.

The handsome sum of £160 was taken for the Cinderella Fund at the Bradford Theatre Royal matinée on Monday. "The Cat" collected an additional £5 9s. 1d., and there is a substantial amount to come from the sale of chocolates and programmes.

On Wednesday afternoon, Feb. 26, the Savoy Theatre will be filled with a juvenile audience. The "Daily News and Leader" has "bought the house" for the performance, and is offering the tickets to schools at rates much below the usual price. Six prizes of the total value of £10 will be offered, open only to those who have attended this matinée, for the best essay on "Shakespeare's 'Twelfth Night'"—three prizes of £3, 30s., and 10s. to boys and girls under 15, and three to those under 19.

Is it possible that Mr. A. M. Loader, Sir Joseph Beecham's general manager at the Aldwych, has a leaning towards the Suffragette movement? For in the new play which he has announced for production on March 4 he has certainly given ladies their fair share of the labour. First, there is the title, "Her Side of the House," then one of the two authors is a lady—Miss Atte Hall. The cast is composed of six ladies in principal parts against five gentlemen, and then, most remarkable of all, Mr. Loader has engaged a lady producer—Miss Rosina Filippi—which should prove a very interesting experiment.

"ELIZA COMES TO STAY."

Farcical Comedy, in Three Acts, by H. V. Esmond, Played for the First Time in London at the Criterion Theatre on Wednesday, Feb. 12.

Hon. Sandy Verrall .....Mr. H. V. Esmond
Alexander Stoop Verrall .....Mr. Fred. Grove
Montague Jordan .....Mr. Eric Lewis
Herbert .....Mr. Charles Esdale
Lady Pennybroke .....Miss Carlotta Addison
Vera Lawrence .....Miss Diana Portis
Mrs. Allaway .....Miss Constance Groves
Eliza .....Miss Eva Moore

A well-constructed, frankly "farcical comedy," with witty dialogue containing many pretty touches of sentiment, "Eliza" received a warm welcome at the Criterion Theatre on Wednesday evening last, and showed every indication of having "come to stay" in town, for Mr. H. V. Esmond's piece, under the title of "Sandy and his Eliza," was first produced at the West Pier, Brighton, on Sept. 30 last. The interesting, though, perhaps, improbable, story runs as follows. The Hon. Sandy Verrall, in his comfortable flat in London, is awaiting the arrival of a legacy from a man who had saved his life on the Matterhorn in the shape of his only child, whom Sandy has promised to "cherish." Sandy's benevolent fancy has outrun the letter of his dying friend, and has pictured the girl as a "blue-eyed, golden-haired" darling, for whom he provides a nurse, a rocking-horse, and "dumpy" books, and zealously reads up Dr. Chavasse's "Advice to a Mother." His uncle, Alexander Stoop Verrall, and his aunt, Lady Pennybroke, come to see him, and applaud the generous action of one who has only £700 a year and "expectations" from an Uncle Gregory. Sandy announces his prospective engagement to an actress, Vera Lawrence, to which he has been impelled partly by his desire to provide his ward with a mother. Vera visits Sandy in his flat and proves more interested in the age and income of his Uncle Gregory than in his expected visitor; but a surprise is awaiting both, for Montague Jordan, Sandy's old friend, arrives from the station with "Eliza"—a maiden with brown-paper parcel, impossible clothes and spectacles, with a hard "sailor" hat surmounting her dark hair tightly dressed in a "bun."

In the second act Sandy, overcome by an all-night reading of the plays advertised for by him for Vera Lawrence—in which business of reading he enlists the services of all his household, and instructs them in the art of "sampling" and subsequent marking as "v.g.," "g.," or "n.g."—feigns sleep on a sofa to escape conversation with Eliza. She talks to Montague, who "makes his n.g.'s beautifully now," and after ingenuous and flattering remarks on her sleeping guardian, she explains that her style of dress is owing to the advice of an aunt, who has told her to render herself innocuous to the ravening male by these means. Sandy pretends to awake, and, after commenting afresh on her clothes, he gives her a cheque to buy a new "turn-out" at the adjacent stores, which Eliza, really longing to be "dangerous" to the opposite sex in general, and to Uncle Sandy in particular, joyfully accepts. Vera Lawrence and Sandy's uncle and aunt call at the flat, the latter with toys with which to propitiate the "little Eliza" on their first introduction to her, and are amazed to be received by Eliza wearing an ultra-fashionable hat and coat and a golden "transformation." To avoid complications Sandy takes his aunt's advice and goes abroad.

In the third act Eliza (rechristened Dorothy by Sandy) has made the most of the month her guardian has been away to improve herself in mind and body. She is receiving daily music lessons from the rejuvenated Monty, who has fallen a victim to her fresh young charm, and, at the instigation of Lady Pennybroke, who, though attracted to the girl, does not wish to see her married to Sandy, he proposes to marry her. Dorothy, gathering from Lady Pennybroke that Sandy feels her an encumbrance, accepts the elderly bean's proposal with conditions and reservations, and goes away to dress for a lunch with him at the Carlton. Sandy returns in her absence, having been recalled by the news of the marriage of Vera Lawrence and his Uncle Gregory, which event he takes very philosophically. He also seems willing to entertain Montague's proposal until he sees the photographs of the transformed Dorothy. Eliza enters in her original dowdy dress, declaring that she will not come to Montague in "Sandy's clothes," and on Monty refusing to take her out like this a stormy scene ensues, and the engagement is declared "off." On the return of Dorothy in a pretty and becoming frock Sandy realises that the best way out of the difficulty, and the one that he really desires, is to marry her himself. This is the skeleton which the admirable acting of all concerned converted into a joy and a delight. Mr. H. V. Esmond as the kind-hearted, honest, and modest Sandy played with ease and finish in a style of breezy comedy. Miss Eva Moore was always charming as the natural, loving, and sensible Eliza, even in her spectacled and unregenerate days, for perhaps we realised all along that a metamorphosis must come. Mr. Eric Lewis, as Montague Jordan, the cheery, fussy, man-about-town, and later as a coy lover, acted inimitably. Mr. Fred. Grove gave a humorous study of a gay old bachelor of another type, and Mr. Charles Esdale was good as the butler, Herbert, pressed into the service as an amateur "play taster." Miss Carlotta Addison was dainty, dignified, and human as Sandy's aunt, Lady Pennybroke; Miss Diana Portis as the vain, self-seeking Vera looked handsome, and played amusingly; and Miss Constance Groves was a motherly and substantial nurse. The little piece, which played for barely two hours, was very warmly applauded, the audience showing much enthusiasm. It was preceded by Mr. Stacey Aumonier in his clever character sketches, perhaps the best of which was the last item, a humorous representation of a "film-play," entitled "Cuthbert's Dream."

THEATRE ROYAL, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, Feb. 10, the Drama, entitled "THE COLLIER'S LASS."

Mr. J. Newton-Cowling has created quite a sensation here with this play. Dealing, as it does, with the life of a collier, with its natural environment and rich Lancashire dialect, the play caught on from the rise of the curtain. On Monday, at the second house, takings beat record since two shows a night were instituted here some four years ago. Mr. J. Dobson Clyde gives a powerful rendering of the manly young collier, Tom Fielding. Mr. David presents a natural character study of old Robert Copley, and as his wife Martha, Miss Adele Liddow gives a finished impersonation. In the title-rôle, Grace Copley, Miss Muriel Dean is delightfully sweet and sympathetic. The scoundrelly Frank Cecil has in Mr. Denbigh J. Douglas a clever exponent, and he is assisted in his nefarious work by Miss Mona Gray as Maud Fernley, a night hawk, and Mr. Cyril Craven, as Hubert Cardel, the mine owner. Mr. Craven also "doubles" Joe Miggins, a collier in love with Mary Ellen. This latter character is very humorously enacted by Miss Lynn Darlington (Mrs. J. Newton-Cowling). Mr. Cowling, too, creates much merriment with his impersonation of John Willie Hay. Miss Ivy Clowser and Mr. Fred Barnes make the most of the opportunities offered them in their respective rôles of Flossie Shaw and Bill Giles. The scenery and effects are alike excellent.

"CATHERINE THE GREAT."

Play, in Three Acts, by R. Henderson Bland and A. E. Manning Foster, Produced at the Cosmopolis Theatre, on Tuesday afternoon, Feb. 11.

Princess Sophia Augusta Fredericka of Zerbst ..... Miss Frances Dillon
Princess Jeanne Elizabeth of Holstein ..... Miss Rose Dupre
Empress Elizabeth ..... Miss Ella Erskine
The Grand Duke Peter .... Mr. Alfred Toose
Count Bestoujeff ..... Mr. Clarence Derwent
Count Lestocq ..... Mr. Alexander Rivers
Herr Brummer ..... Mr. Stanley Roberts
Count Peter Schouvaloff .. Mr. Leon M. Lion
The Archbishop of Novgorod ..... Mr. Frederick Moyes
Gregory Orloff ..... Mr. Langhorne Burton
Alexis Orloff ..... Mr. Noel Phelps
Adjutant-General Goudovitch ..... Mr. Benedict Butler
Sir Hanbury Williams..Mr. George Fitzgerald
Count Poniatowski..Mr. R. Henderson Bland
General Munnich .... Mr. George Fitzgerald
Lamberti ..... Mr. Stanley Roberts
Courier ..... Mr. Benedict Butler
Elizabeth Worontzoff....Miss Edith Graham
Mme. Krause ..... Miss Irene Moncrieff
Countess Roumanizoff ..... Miss Lily Kerr
Ladies Misses N. Prescott-Davies and M. Orth

The play, which may be described as a series of episodes culminating in the proclamation of Catherine the Second as sole Empress of all the Russias, opens with the arrival of the young Princess Sophia Augusta of Zerbst (afterwards re-christened Catharine), at the Imperial Palace at Moscow, and her almost immediate betrothal to the childish and weak-minded Grand Duke Peter by the imperious Empress Elizabeth. The authors, however, depart from history when they make only seventeen months, instead of sixteen years, elapse between the betrothal of the innocent yet ambitious girl and the accession of the insulted and disillusioned, though still ambitious and clever, wife to the throne with her weak and vicious husband, and his subsequent murder by one of his officers, whom he has grossly insulted. The love which is missing in the union of Peter and Catherine is supplied by the devoted Count Poniatowski, afterwards King of Poland.

The play contains some good writing, though there are few dramatic scenes. It was spiritedly acted, practically without scenery, by a company who entered fully into the spirit of the various characters they portrayed. Miss Frances Dillon acted with great charm in the earlier scenes as the youthful Princess Sophia, and her powers as an emotional actress had full play in the later scenes with her husband and her lover. Miss Ella Erskine was a beautiful and regal Empress Elizabeth, storming with royal rage, and put an immense amount of dramatic energy and emotional expression into her rendering of the scene with the spying Peter of Act. II. She looked the part superbly, and played it like a genuine artist. Mr. Clarence Derwent cleverly indicated the crafty, intriguing, and unscrupulous Chancellor Bestoujeff, and Mr. Noel Phelps acted with force as the conspiring officer, Alexis Orloff, who finally strangles the Emperor with his own hands. Mr. George Fitzgerald was diplomatically calm as the English Ambassador, Sir Hanbury Williams, appearing also as the arrested General Munich in the last act. As Count Poniatowski Mr. R. Henderson Bland had a good deal to do, and played the courtly lover very acceptably. Miss Edith Graham was insolently handsome as Elizabeth Worontzoff, a lady-in-waiting of Catherine, and mistress of Peter, and scored by her exit after the order had been torn from her by the indignant Empress. Miss Rose Dupré as the comely Princess Jeanne, and Miss Irene Moncrieff as Mme. Krause made effective though brief appearances. Miss Lily Kerr was easy and natural as the sympathetic confidant, the Countess Roumanizoff, and Mr. Alfred Toose did what he could with the part of the childish and headstrong Peter. Mr. Frederick Moyes was dignified and impressive as the Archbishop of Novgorod, and courtiers, officers, and others were efficiently impersonated by Mr. Alexander Rivers as Count Lestocq; Mr. Stanley Roberts, who doubled the parts of the Grand Chamberlain and the visionary gardener, Lamberti; Mr. Leon M. Lion as Count Peter Schouvaloff; Mr. Langhorne Burton as Gregory Orloff; and Mr. Benedict Butler as Adjutant-General Goudovitch.

TRINITY COLLEGE OF MUSIC.

The organ solo, "Epilogue in D minor," Healey Willan, and played by Mr. George H. Skaer, was the first item in the programme on Monday, Feb. 10; it was well played. Miss Phyllis Norwood sang "Ma Voisine" (Goring Thomas) fairly well, but at present she has not much power. The pianoforte Scherzo in C sharp minor (Chopin) requires a very decided touch, but in the lighter passages Miss Leotine Barthelmew made good effect. Miss Phyllis Nash played the violin solo, "Pierrot Serenade," by A. Randegger; her interpretation was rather uncertain at times, but she must be heard again. Mr. William J. C. Leighton made a good impression by his singing of Sullivan's "Thou'rt passing hence." The Quintette in E flat, Op. 44 (Schumann), played by Harold Wood, Aileen Butler, Gwen Bury, Constance Martin, and Sydney Lanbach, members of the Chamber Music Class, made a pleasant variety, the music of Schumann being always welcome. Mr. William H. Bowyer was heard in the piano solo, Nocturne in C sharp minor (Chopin). Mr. Bowyer greatly improves in style. Miss Evelyn Goudie sang Wagner's "Elizabeth's prayer," with organ accompaniment by Edward S. Mitchell, and succeeded fairly well. Mr. Mitchell was also heard in the piano solo, Melodie in F minor, his own composition; and the organ solo, Fugue in E flat (Bach), played by Mr. Donald Priestley, concluded the concert.

Adapting the catch-phrase of the moment, the Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool, management are now announcing, concerning "Jack Horner," that "Everybody's viewing it," and a more apt description of the state of things at the Fraser-street house could not be imagined. The pantomime goes with a roar from start to finish, and gives a remarkable amount of pleasure.

A meeting of the committee of the Touring Managers' Association was held on Feb. 7. Present: Mr. A. Bertram (in the chair), Mr. Herbert Ralland, Mr. Cecil Barth, Mr. John Tully, Mr. William Giffard, Mr. E. Taylor-Platt, Mr. J. Forbes-Knowles, Mr. Frank Weathersby, Mr. J. Bannister Howard, Mr. Wentworth Croke, Mr. Sam Livesey, Mr. E. Graham Falcon, Mr. W. Muskerry-Tilson (honorary solicitor), and Mr. Montgomery Martin (secretary). Mr. Millar Anderson and Mr. Alban Limpus were duly elected members of the Association. A member asked for advice in reference to a dispute with a resident-manager, and the secretary was directed as to reply. A member complained of the impossibility of artistes on tour joining any particular panel, and the secretary was directed to write to the Insurance Commissioners pointing out that some artistes have been refused medical benefits while on tour, and to inquire what arrangements have been made for those artistes who hold fully stamped cards to obtain benefits under the Act. A manager complained of the filthy condition of a theatre, but the secretary was directed to say as he is not a member the committee is unable to take the matter up for him officially.

A CHAT WITH ELLA ERSKINE.

There are some women who possess the invaluable faculty of impressing with their individuality and imbuing with their ideas all with whom they come into contact. Such a personality is largely possessed by Miss Ella Erskine, the well-known actress, author, and poet—who, by the way, is a daughter of the late General Erskine. Even those who might, perhaps, at first feel indisposed to support her views are led to regard them with increased favour, when expounded by such a charming enthusiast.

Miss Erskine's eyes sparkled in the glow of the red-shaded lamps as she sat at lunch with the Journalist in that corner of Gatti's known to the elect—where so many of the well-known "lights of the Profession" are wont to forgather for the mid-day repast.

"You really think, Miss Erskine, the time is ripe for large developments in the way of introducing to the public Dramatic Art in a form that would formerly have found little appreciation?"

"Most decidedly. I believe all the signs point to an awakening of the artistic sense and dormant imagination of the playgoing public. All unconsciously, perhaps, the great bulk of the people has an innate craving for the fantastic and beautiful as distinct from the purely entertaining and sensational. A certain section of the drama has always seemed to me to be like the mid-Victorian garden, with its distorted flower-beds filled with flamboyant geraniums, so hopelessly crowded as to appear to be struggling for existence within their imprisoning girdle of lobelia—

MISS ELLA ERSKINE.

that Mrs. Grundy of the flower world. How much more inspiring is the simple and truly great Art which I might liken to a green garth in Springtime, with here and there a clump of golden daffodils growing in unrestrained beauty and freedom!

"I found, while I was giving my series of Browning Centenary Matinées, a much greater appreciation of poetic beauty in the drama than I had dared to hope. Even in Walworth—which Charles Booth described as one of the most hopelessly sordid districts in London—Browning's 'Andrea del Sarto' and 'In a Balcony' were received with greater enthusiasm than one would naturally have expected had one been playing the goriest of melodramas. That, surely, is a proof that there exists in the most unlikely places an unconscious yearning for the beautiful. I think we shall soon see, even among people whose dramatic taste has previously never risen higher than frank melodrama or the after-dinner digestive play, a demand for something much more thoughtful, something more satisfying to the mind. No one could live for ever on a diet of, say, bully beef or *marrons glacés*, and the hackneyed type of play is at last, I think, beginning to surfeit the mental palates of the two extremes of non-intellectual playgoers—the Surrey-sider and the—er, bored butterfly who flits into the theatre, *pour passer le temps*.

"A most gratifying indication of the change in the public attitude towards the theatre is the health growth of the Repertory Theatre. It is by such means as this that a taste can be fostered for the things that matter in the drama."

"Are you contemplating any further productions of poetical drama, on the lines of your Browning matinées?"

"Oh, yes! Certainly! At the moment I am arranging a production of Swinburne's wonderful poem-tragedy, 'Chastelard,' for a series of matinées. So far as I am aware, this will be the first time it will have been seen on the stage, although it not only contains some of the great poet's finest work, but is essentially dramatic in the highest possible sense. The part of Mary, Queen of Scots, is one which has always attracted me, and, being an ardent Jacobite, I shall find a double pleasure in playing that most subtle and fascinatingly truant character. I am securing a very strong cast, and I hope we may be able to give a representation worthy alike of the great theme and the great poet."

"How soon will that be?"

"In about six weeks' time. In the meanwhile, I am busy with quite a different class of work. Next week I am making my Variety début with my own company at the Tottenham Palace. I have a strong Grand Guignolesque play, 'The Tigress,' which has been specially—and I must add cleverly and attractively—written for me by Mr. Cecil Howard-Turner. I think it is one of the most powerful little plays I have ever read. The spirit of the character which I am interpreting is, I think, well reflected in the Spanish Cabaret song which I sing in the play. Mr. Howard-Turner's verses have been set to haunting music by Mr. Christopher Wilson."

"And this song-poem?"

"Oh! It's quite simple, but no less effective. Listen.

Soft is the skin of the Tigress,
Bright is the light of her eyes,
Sweet is the sound of her purring—
But beware lest her anger should rise!

Sharp are the claws of the Tigress,
Cruel her sinuous grace;
Take care how you yield to her luring—
Death lies within her embrace!

"Apropos of Music halls, here again we find a demand for something more than mere idle amusement. Altogether, I think the dramatic flora promises to bloom most healthily."

Coming out into the Strand, thick with fog, "The Era" representative brought with him a mental impression of a green garth where the flowers grew in the sunshine.

Miss Edna May (Mrs. Oscar Lewisohn) and her husband are going to sell Cranbourne Court, their beautiful home in Windsor Forest, and to live chiefly abroad in future.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

"LE COURRONNEMENT DE POPPEE."

Drama, by Busenelleo, Music by Claudio Monteverdi, Produced at the Théâtre des Arts, on Feb. 6.

Poppée ..... Mlle. Crozia
Octavie ..... Mlle. Demellier
Le Page ..... Mlle. Romanitza
Demoiselle ..... Mlle. Borzy
Néron ..... M. Coulomb
Sénèque ..... M. Collet
Othon ..... M. Trévant
Soldat ..... M. Moisson
Paso ..... M. Godard

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, Thursday, Feb. 6.—This is a curious, highly classical work, by the maestro, Claudio Monteverdi, produced for the first time in Venice, in the year 1642, when the composer had entered upon his seventy-fifth year. Masterpieces are supposed to be immortal, but there are exceptions, and, strange as it may seem, this stupendous work has remained, so to say, buried alive, until M. Vincent d'Indy has resuscitated it; and the greatest praise is due to the Théâtre des Arts management for having given us an opportunity of listening to fragments of this wonderful composition. The simple plot deals with the tragic history of Octavia, who, betrothed to Silenus, was, by the intrigues of Agrippina, married to the Emperor Nero. But she was soon afterwards divorced, on pretence of barrenness, whereupon the Emperor married Poppaea. The music, three centuries old, does not at all appear antiquated, although it must be remarked here that M. d'Indy has made a careful selection, and has only produced the parts likely to please the public. The farewell scene between Nero and Poppaea in the first tableau is most telling, and so is the chorus of Seneca's pupils imploring him not to inflict death on himself. Octavia's complaint is also most impressive. The work was very well staged and admirably interpreted.

"L'Amoureuse Leçon," the other work produced at the above house, is a one-act ballet by M. Alfred Bruneau to a libretto by Catulle Mendès. We are in a park dimly lighted by the rays of the moon. A boy and girl make their appearance. They are miserable, for they have been compelled to leave the beautiful fête at the distant chateau because neither of them can dance. Ah! If they only knew somebody who could have taught them! Suddenly, at the bidding of two allegorical personages, ethereal couples come forward and teach the delighted young couple how to dance the minuet, the bourrée, the pavane, the sarabande, and other marvels.

"LA COCOTTE BLEUE."

Vaudeville, in Four Acts, by M. Emile Hartel, Produced at Cluny, on Jan. 31.

Monsieur Masicot ..... M. Charpentier
Claude Persillet ..... M. Antony
Henri Barfleur ..... M. Saulieu
Tripolini ..... M. Ganier
Pomojus ..... M. Cosnard
Pygmalion ..... M. Bellent
Mme. Achtemroch ..... M. Franck-Mel
Alzire Persillet ..... Mlle. Chalon
Cliquette ..... Mlle. Jenny Lington
Lucette ..... Mlle. Saroval

The Cluny Theatre, although a "regular" house, is classed here among the "théatres de quartier," a "district theatre" like the Montparnasse, the Belleville, the Montmartre, and other houses which only cater for the people in the district in which they are situated. The patrons of these theatres are always the same, and the managers know exactly what fare to serve them. This fare varies considerably, according to the taste of the inhabitants of each particular district. Thus, whilst Belleville and Montmartre—workmen's quarters—delight in melodramas with several murders, and perhaps a ghost thrown in, Cluny is the home of "fun." This "fun" might perhaps not prove to the taste of the frequenters of the Palais-Royal, but Cluny audiences are not so particular, and they want strong food in the way of farce, something in the rough-and-tumble order, something that can make them and their wives roar. They do not care for refined jokes that evoke a smile, and perhaps a titter with the fashionable audiences in the boulevard houses. If the Cluny frequenter has only "smiled and tittered," he thinks he has wasted his time and his money. And it is for this reason that the Cluny management has given them "La Cocotte Bleue," easy to produce, but difficult, if not impossible, to relate. Henri Barfleur is engaged to the charming Lucette Massicot, and as he wants to hold a clearance before settling down as a respectable married man, he commissions one of his friends, Claude Persillet, to bring back the letters he wrote to a married lady with whom he had a liaison. Claude Persillet acquits himself of his task. He secures the compromising letters, but, taking advantage of his wife's absence, he spends the night with a fascinating but frail creature, from whom he parts hurriedly in the morning, leaving the letters behind him. And, to make matters worse, he has not only forgotten the name of the lady, but also her address. All he remembers is that she is a cocotte, and that she wore a blue dress And then we witness the hunt after the "cocotte bleue," a hunt that takes us to the famous Bal Tabarin, where an impromptu exhibition of ankles is held before an admiring crowd. It all seemed a bit spun out, but towards midnight everything came right. It was brightly acted.

In theatrical circles it was rumoured that Mlle Jane Marnac had signed an important engagement with a variety theatre in London, but as this artiste appears nightly in "Paris fin de Règne," MM. Rip and Bousquet's revue now running at the Capucines, I asked Mlle. Marnac whether this rumour was true. "I have received," she replied, "a most tempting offer from London, but as I am 'booked' very long ahead, it is impossible for me to fix the date when I can make my first curtesy to an English audience." When that date arrives Mlle. Marnac will certainly meet with a flattering reception. Sweetly pretty, an artiste to her fingers' tips, she radiates charm. Although very young, she has already appeared on every important theatre and music hall in Paris. At the Athénée she replaced Mlle. Diéterle in "Triplepatte"; the Odéon had engaged her for the interesting performances of "Le Malade Imaginaire"; and we have applauded her in other houses. At the present moment she draws large audiences at the Capucines, where she appears first as a society woman, then as Mme. Faillières, and winds up by entering a box, impersonating a "demi-mondaine," loud in dress and in speech, making uncomplimentary remarks to her companions about the entertainment, a scene that sends the house into roars of laughter. Mlle. Marnac has leaped into fame with lightning rapidity, and she is one of the greatest favourites with the Paris public.

Mr. Geo. Wood, who has been musical director at the Grand Theatre, Derby, for the past five and a half years, has recently been temporarily transferred to Mr. T. Allan Edwardes' other local house, the Palace. To mark the esteem in which he is held the members of the orchestra have presented him with a handsome case of pipes and walking stick, the latter bearing a silver plate with suitable inscription. Mr. Chas. Denley, manager at the Grand, made the presentation, and was supported by Mr. Bert Clay, who succeeds Mr. Wood, and practically the whole of the members of the orchestra.

"A MATTER OF MONEY."

A Play, in Three Acts, by Cicely Hamilton, Produced by the Pioneer Players at the Little Theatre, on Sunday, Feb. 9.

Hawkins ..... Mr. Norman Yates
Cis Coventry ..... Miss Elaine Sleddall
Herbert Coventry ..... Mr. Moffat Johnston
Lucia Coventry ..... Miss Sarah Brooke
Dr. Channing .....Mr. Ben Webster
Jacob ..... Mr. Walter Plinge
Mr. Bentley ..... Mr. Ernest Thesiger
Mrs. Bentley .....Miss Winifred Mayo
Mrs. Meadows .....Miss Inez Bensusan
Marjorie .....Miss Rosamund Belmore
Mrs. Channing ..... Miss May Whitty
Maid .....Miss Angela Colenso
Porter .....Mr. Edmond Breon

A clever and interesting play, written with distinction and with some dramatic scenes, "A Matter of Money" is not always convincing, and is too long drawn out. First produced at the Repertory Theatre, Glasgow, on March 13, 1911, under the title of "The Cutting of the Knot," the theme of the play is the "eternal triangle"—the husband, the wife, and the lover, and the clever authoress of "Diana of Dobson's" has, we gather, sought to prove that it is always the woman who suffers where selfish man is concerned. But the two principal male characters are miserable wretches: scarcely fair samples; and the conduct of both at times is most improbable.

Herbert Coventry and his wife Lucia are living a cat-and-dog life—"quarrels for breakfast, quarrels for dinner, and a special flare up for tea," as Cis Coventry, Herbert's sister, puts it. Grieved at the terrible rangling of the ill-mated couple, Cis tries her hand at peace-making, but with no success, and declares her intention of shortening her visit, so distressful is their incessant bickering. The arrival on the scene of Dr. Channing soon reveals the fact that he and Lucia are lovers. The doctor, afraid of discovery, is much more guarded in his love-making than Lucia, who appears to be most reckless in her passionate embracings. And it is her carelessness which ultimately leads to the discovery of the liaison. Learning that her husband is about to absent himself from their home in the country for a day or two, Lucia drops a note to her lover making an appointment to call about midnight. Going to the writing-table soon afterwards, the blotting-pad reveals to the hitherto quite unsuspecting husband that Lucia has been writing to the doctor; he intercepts her letter and reads it. Of course he returns just as she expects her midnight visitor, and a clever and impressive scene follows, in which he uses his knowledge to torture Lucia. Eventually he tells her that she need not wait for Channing any longer, and, learning that he knows all, she admits her love for the doctor, and declares her loathing for her husband in no half-measures. She rejoices at the prospect of Herbert divorcing her, for she will be free—free to marry the man whom she so passionately loves. The husband hints that Channing may not be so eager to marry her, and Cis—upon learning the cause of the latest squabble and its seriousness—also has her doubts. But Lucia is quite sure of her lover.

In the next act there is an affecting interview between the doctor—who, it must be mentioned, is only a struggling general practitioner—and his wife and little girl. The two latter have only just returned from the seaside, and the delicate daughter has greatly benefited from the change. The financial embarrassments of the doctor are discussed; and the self-sacrificing mother is hopeful that better times are in store, as there is a prospect of a patient coming to reside with them who will pay six guineas a week. And then Mrs. Coventry is announced, and the doctor learns that their guilty secret is out. Lucia's illusion is then quickly dispelled. Channing's first impulse is to fly into a rage with her for being so careless. His practice will be ruined, and he and his wife and child confronted with absolute starvation. If he were wealthy things would be different, or even if Lucia had money. But vice is the luxury of the rich, and the few pounds the pair can scrape together would soon be gone. And, realising the hopelessness of her position, Lucia goes out and meets her death at the level crossing.

Miss Sarah Brooke as the guilty wife acted with considerable power and effect, and was especially good in the second act, but indulged in too much by-play with her hands. A most finished and natural impersonation of the doctor's loyal wife was submitted by Miss May Whitty, who realised and played the part perfectly; and a delightfully real portrayal of the child Marjorie was given by Miss Rosamund Belmore. The good-hearted Cis Coventry was played with acuteness and ease by Miss Elaine Steddall; and Miss Inez Bensusan and Miss Winifred Mayo gave finished little character studies of Mrs. Bentley and Mrs. Meadows. Mr. Moffat Johnson as the caddish, brutal husband acted cleverly; and Mr. Ben Webster finely depicted the anguish and despair of the weak-willed husband. Mr. Norman Yates, Mr. Walter Plinge, and Mr. Ernest Thesiger did capitally in other parts, and the piece, which was given a very gratifying reception, was admirably produced by Miss Edith Craig.

The fairy play, "Santa Claus," which had such a successful run at the Scala Theatre, is a distinct novelty, in that it is a combination of stage play and Kinemacolor pictures. It must not be imagined, however, that it is in any sense a film play. It is a genuine stage production, the pictures only being used to secure additional effects which could not be obtained on the stage itself, such as, for instance, the journey of Father Christmas and Ting-a-ling through the air in pursuit of the earth. The whole forms a very attractive and unique Christmas entertainment.

On Thursday, at the Clapham Coroner's Court, Mr. G. P. Wyatt, coroner, held an inquest on the body of Mr. John Albert Brody, aged sixty-five years, an actor, lately residing at 61, Larkhall-rise, Clapham. Marion Brody, the widow, said that deceased, who complained of his chest and heart, had been under medical attendance. About half-past nine o'clock on Tuesday night deceased left home for a short walk, and never returned. About one o'clock the following morning she was informed of his death. Richard Miker stated that shortly before midnight on Tuesday he was walking along Larkhall-rise and found deceased lying on the pavement near the railway arch. Witness raised him up and sent for a medical man, who pronounced life extinct. Dr. B. Soper, of 344, Clapham-road, who made a post-mortem examination, said that death was due to syncope from pneumonia. The jury returned a verdict accordingly.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

"The War against Bribery," by R. M. Leonard, with a preface by the Right Hon. Sir Edward Fry, G.C.B. (44 pages. Price 6d.) Published by the Secret Commissions and Bribery Prevention League (Incorporated).

"Queen Tara," by Darrell Figgis. (91 pages. Price 1s. net.) Published by Messrs. J. M. Dent and Sons, Ltd.

"The Russian Ballet," by Ellen Terry, with drawings by Pamela Colman Smith. (54 pages. Price 3s. 6d. net.) Published by Sidgwick and Jackson.

"The Gate of To-morrow," by Norman McKeown. (312 pages. Price, 6s.) Published by Cassell and Co., Ltd.

ON THE ROAD, FEBRUARY 17.

Allah's Orchard.—O.H., Wakefield.
Amazons, The.—T.R., Peterborough.
Arcadians, The.—T.R., Bolton.
As Your Hair Grows Whiter.—T.R., Woolwich.
Autumn Manœuvres.—Manchester.
Bear-Leaders.—T.R., Torquay.
Bella Donna (Limpus).—York.
Bella Donna.—T.R., Huddersfield.
Ben-Hur.—Southport.
Benson, Mr. F. R.—Coronet Theatre, W.
Blindness of Virtue.—Palace Pier, Brighton.
Bonnie Mary.—Empire, Fleetwood.
Brewster's Millions.—Stockport.
Bulmer, Mr.—Metropole, Gateshead.
Bunty Pulls the Strings (N.).—T.R., Bury.
Bunty Pulls the Strings (S.).—D.P.T., Eastbourne.
Butterfly on the Wheel.—King's, Hammersmith.
Carl Rosa Opera Co.—King's T., Edinburgh.
Castellano's Opera Co.—Grand T., Wolverhampton.
Charley's Aunt.—Lyceum, Ipswich.
Child of the Streets.—Motherwell.
Chocolate Soldier (W.).—Gloucester.
Chocolate Soldier (N.).—Crystal Palace Theatre.
Chocolate Soldier (No. 1).—Empire, W. Hartlepool.
Chocolate Soldier (E.).—Barrow-in-Furness.
Claudian.—T.R., Leigh.
Collier's Lass (N.).—T.R., North Shields.
Collier's Lass, The (S.).—P.T., Portsmouth.
Colombo Girl, The.—New Hippo., Shildon.
Count of Luxembourg.—New Hall, Bargoed.
Dancing Mistress, The.—P.T., Manchester.
D'Oyly Carte Opera.—Lyceum, Sheffield.
Draper, Mr. Marcus.—T.R., Darwen.
Easiest Way, The.—O.H., Northampton.
East Lynne (Pitt-Hardacre).—Palace, Porth.
Fanny's First Play (Rignold and Macdona).—T.R., Shrewsbury.
Fatal Wedding.—Empire, Barnsley.
Fatal Wedding.—King's, Kilmarnock.
Find the Woman.—T.R., Aldershot.
Follies, The.—Hippo., Croydon.
For Wife and Kingdom.—T.R., Chorley.
From Mill Girl to Millionairess.—Grand, Stockton.
Gambler, The.—T.R., Jarrow.
Garrod, Mr. W. V.—Grand, Gt. Harwood.
Gay Lord Quex.—Broadway T., New Cross.
Gipsy Love.—Grand, Croydon.
Girl in the Picture.—Whitehaven.
Girl in the Train.—H.M.T., Carlisle.
Girl of My Heart.—Paisley T., Paisley.
Glad Eye, The (Meyer).—T.R., Nottingham.
Glad Eye, The (Meyer).—T.R., Plymouth.
Glossop-Harris Rept.—T.R., Windsor.
Great White Chief, The.—Grand, Halifax.
Hill-Mitchelson, E.—P.O.W.T., Grimsby.
Hindle Wakes.—T.R., Preston.
Hindle Wakes.—O.H., Cheltenham.
Hope, The (Dance).—Wigan.
Indian Scout, The.—T.R., South Shields.
Jelfs.—P.G.T., Folkestone.
King of the Wild West.—Empire, Swindon.
Kismet (Dance) (S.).—Rochdale.
Kismet (Dance) (N.).—Oldham.
Lifeguardsman, The (S.).—Palace, Newcastle.
Lodge-Percy Rept.—Osborne T., Manchester.
Lomath's, Stuart, Co.—Star T., Swansea.
Man to Man.—Alhambra, Openshaw.
Marsh, Alexander, Shakespearean.—W.G.T., New Brighton.
Midnight Wedding.—Hippo., Leeds.
'Mid Pleasures and Palaces.—Grand, Brighton.
Milestones (Blue).—Artillery T., Woolwich.
Milestones (Fit-up).—Buckingham and Hitchin.
Milestones (Red).—Boro' T., Stratford.
Milestones (White).—T.R., Halifax.
Miracle, The.—H.M.T., Dundee.
Miss Hook of Holland.—Grand, Derby.
Moody-Manners Opera Co.—T.R., Birkenhead.
Mormon and His Wives.—T.R., Chatham.
Nick Carter.—New T., Weymouth.
Old Folks at Home.—Grand T., Nottingham.
Old Home, The.—Hippo., St. Helens.
O'Mara Opera Co.—G.O.H., Middlesbrough.
Only a Mill Girl.—Metropole, Glasgow.
Pink Lady, The.—King's T., Sunderland.
Prairie Outlaw.—Junction T., Manchester.
Pride of the Prairie.—T.R., Castleford.
Princess Caprice.—H.M.T., Aberdeen.
Prisoner of Zenda.—Kelly's T., Liverpool.
Proud Maisie.—Lyceum, Edinburgh.
Quaker Girl (N.).—Hanley.
Quaker Girl (E.).—Nuneaton.
Quaker Girl (S.).—Coventry.
Queen for a Wife, A.—Prince's T., Preston.
Queen Mother, The.—Empire, Holloway.
Queen of the Redskins (S.).—Grand, Plymouth.
Ready Money (Fenton).—King's T., Greenock.
Red Riding Hood (De Lacy and Tymes).—G.T., Houghton-le-Spring.
Rollicking Rory.—Grand Hippo., Wigan.
Round-Up, The.—T.R., Sheffield.
Royal Divorce, A.—T.R., Rotherham.
Scrape o' the Pen.—T.R., Newcastle.
Sign of the Cross.—Grand, Fulham.
Silver King.—T.R., Middlesbrough.
Slave Girl, The.—Gaiety, Dundee.
Sledge-Hammer, The.—Empire, Hednesford.
Sunshine Girl (Dance).—Brighton.
Sunshine Girl (Edwardes).—P.O.W.T., Birmingham.
Sweet Nell of Old Drury.—Wimbledon, S.W.
Uncle Tom's Cabin.—T.R., Norwich.
Van Praagh-Whitty Rept.—T.R., Lincoln.
Waltz Dream (N.).—Blackburn.
Waltz Dream (S.).—St. Helens.
What Happened to Jones.—Boston and Skegness.
What Women Will Do For Love.—Empire T., Cradley Heath.
Whip, The (Dance) (S.).—Newport.
Whip, The (Dance) (N.).—Glasgow.
White Slave Girl, The.—T.R., Stratford.
Wife for a Day, A.—Grand, Gt. Harwood.
Witness for the Defence.—T.R., Margate.
Woman Pays, The.—T.R., West Stanley.
Young Buffalo.—Empire T., Swindon.
10.30 Down Express.—Olympia, Coalville.

SUNDAY'S TRAIN CALLS.

By the courtesy of the various railway companies we are enabled to give the following particulars regarding the movements of theatrical and music hall touring companies travelling by rail to-morrow:

LONDON AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.

The following companies will travel by L. and N.W. route on Sunday next:—"Little Stowaway," London to Birmingham; "Christian," London to Smethwick; Castellano Opera, Bedford to Wolverhampton; "Chocolate Soldier," Rugby to Gloucester; "Queen for a Wife," Southend to Preston; "Outcast of Family," Workington to Wath-on-Dearne; "Glad Eye," Barrow to Wakefield; "Bunty Pulls the Strings," St. Helens to Dewsbury; "Cinderella," Leigh and Bedford to Todmorden; "House that Jack Built," Cross Lane to Leeds; Miss Horniman's, Manchester to Harrogate; "Chocolate Soldier," Oldham to West Hartlepool; "Sleeping Beauty," Dewsbury to Bishop Auckland; "Arcadians," Stockport to Bolton; "Forty Thieves," Stockport to Preston; Alice Raymond's, Manchester to Carlisle; "Only a Mill Girl," Salford to Glasgow; "Bonnie Mary," Salford to Fleetwood; "Rollicking Rory, Manchester to Wigan; "Hindle Wakes," Wigan to Preston; American Rag-timers, Preston to Glasgow; "At Mercy of Mormons," Manchester to Earlestown; "Cinderella," Manchester to Liverpool; "Babes in the Wood," Manchester to Alexandra Dock, Bootle; "Waltz Dream," Birkenhead to St. Helens; "Aladdin," Birkenhead to Manchester; "Kismet," Chester to Rochdale; Dick Whittington," Smethwick to Liverpool; "Pride of Byzantia," Dudley to Bury; "Manxman," Stafford to Buxton; "For Wife and Kingdom," Crewe to Chorley; "Babes in the Wood," Cardiff to Liverpool; Hengler's Circus, Glasgow to Bristol, Leicester, and Boulogne; "Aladdin," Macclesfield to Pontypridd; "Old Home," St. Helens to Abertillery; "Fanny's First Play," Hanley to Shrewsbury; Chung Ling Soo, Longton to Bath; "Babes in the Wood," Huddersfield to Birkenhead; "Dick Whittington," Blackburn to Birkenhead, for Seacombe "Robinson Crusoe," Darwen to St. Helens; "Wakes Week," Belfast to Warrington; "Christian," Chorley to Leigh and Bedford; Rabottini's Band, Maidstone to Stockport; "Quaker Girl," Huddersfield to Hanley; "Woman in the Case," Watford to Burnley; T. Elder Mearn's, London to Barrow; "Marked Money," London to Manchester; "Easiest Way," London to Northampton; "His Indian Wife," Preston to Stoke; "Alias Jimmy Valentine," Blackpool to Birmingham; "Through Death Valley, Belfast to Liverpool; "Her Madcap Majesty," Norwich to Northampton; "Queen of the Redskins," Manchester to Worcester; "Monk and Woman," Bolton to Crewe; "Butterfly on Wheel," Liverpool to London; "Man from Mexico," Liverpool to Birmingham; Raynor's Repertoire, Leeds to Manchester; Vaudevillians, Dublin to Huddersfield; "A Lad's Love," Dublin to Wolverhampton; "With Edged Tools," Hoylake to Blackpool; "Count of Luxembourg," Burton to Chester; "Prisoner of Zenda," Carlisle to Liverpool; "Sledge Hammer," Leicester to Hednesford; Chas. Austin, London to Glasgow; "Apple of Eden," Liverpool to Widnes; "Dick Whittington," Warrington to Belfast; "Cattle Thief" Bilton to Colchester; "Wild Girl of the Forest," Tednesbury to Rugby; "Aladdin," Hednesford to end London, &c.

NORTH EASTERN RAILWAY.

The following companies will travel over the above railway to-morrow (Sunday):—"Cinderella," Hamilton to London; "The Whip," Newcastle to Edinburgh; Leeburn's Stars, Rowlands Gill to Troon; "Pet of Ranch," North Shields to West Hartlepool; "Colombo Girl," Shildon to Stockton; "Dick Whittington," Birtley to Murton; "Aladdin," South Shields to Seaham; "Red Riding Hood," Seaham to Fencehouses; Tudor's Circus, Newcastle to Bishop Auckland; "Dick Whittington," Gateshead to North Shields; Curtis Four," Blyth to Jarrow; "Forty Thieves," Newcastle to Ashington; Kino's Juveniles, Durham to Jarrow; "The Gambler," Sunderland to Jarrow; "Aladdin," Sunderland to Middlesbrough; "Jolly Miller," Spenymoor to Horden; "Indian Scout," West Hartlepool to South Shields; "Dick Whittington," Newcastle to King's Cross; "As Your Hair Grows Whiter," S. Shields to Woolwich; Astis Co., Sunderland to Finsbury Park; "Aladdin," Sunderland to King's Cross; "Cinderella," Shield Row to Morley; "Red Riding Hood," Newcastle to Ashton; "Cinderella," Bishop Auckland to Manchester; "Village Nuts," Newburn to Goole; Margaret Doris Co., Newcastle to Bradford; "Cinderella," Shotton Bridge to Goole; "Cinderella," Jarrow to Nelson; "Cinderella," Fencehouses to Derby; Wood and Helsby Co., Crook to Frodingham and Scunthorpe; O'Mara Opera Co., Burnley to Middlesbrough; "Silver King," Goole to Middlesbrough; "Waltz Dream," Rochdale to Sunderland; "Shaughraun," Pontefract to Shield Row; "Jack Horner," York to Darlington; "Cinderella," Hull to Accrington; Italian Circus, Hull to Stockton; "Scrape o' the Pen," Hull to Newcastle; "Chocolate Soldier," Oldham to West Hartlepool; "Pink Lady," Cambridge to Sunderland; "Peter Pan," Cardiff to Hull; "Humpty Dumpty," Hull to London; "Sinbad," Glossop to Beverley; "Lifeguardsman," Liverpool to Newcastle; Wiley's Co., Middlesbrough to Edinburgh; "Slave Girl," Middlesbrough to Dundee; Chiffon Troupe, Middlesbrough to Manchester; "Cinderella," Middlesbrough to King's Cross; "Cinderella," Middlesbrough to Sunderland; Lorch Family, Thornaby to Oldham; "Thief in the Night," Stockton to Sunderland; "Bella Donna," Darlington to York; "Claudian," Castleford to Leigh and Bedford; Les Petits Anglais Co., Kettering to Redcar; "Pride of the Prairie," Barnsley to Castleford; Horniman's Co., Manchester to Harrogate; Bros Luck Co., Bradford to Hull.

MIDLAND RAILWAY.

Theatrical companies en route Sunday, Feb. 16:—Mr. George Edwardes' "The Dancing Mistress," Dundee to Manchester; Mr. Martin Harvey and Co., Sheffield to Leicester; Mr. George Edwardes' "The Sunshine Girl," Manchester to Birmingham; "Brewster's Millions," Derby to Stockport; "Aladdin," Nottingham to Bolton; the Turner Opera Co., Bacup to London; Matheson Lang and Co., Manchester to London; "Wild Australia," Plymouth to Sheffield; "Ten Loonies," Manchester to London; "Arms and the Girl," Birmingham to Leeds; "Miss Hook of Holland," London to Derby; "Dick Whittington," Coalville to Alfreton; Marie Santoi Troupe, Kettering to Nottingham; "Don't You Believe It," Nottingham to Dundee; "10-30 a.m. Down Express," Rushden to Coalville; "A Fatal Wedding," Barnsley to Kilmarnock; "Walls of Jericho," London to Mansfield; Violet Vanbrugh and Co., Bristol to Manchester; "Criminal's Bride," Winchester to Leicester; "Babes in the Wood," Chesterfield to Nottingham; "A Wife for a Day," Keighley to Great Harwood; Charles Austin's Co., Luton to Ramsgate; "The Quaker Girl," Stourbridge to Nuneaton; "Aladdin," Cannock to Tewkesbury; Catlin's Co., Sheffield to Leicester; "Aladdin," Sutton-in-Ashfield to Luton; "Hindle Wakes," Wolverhampton to Cheltenham; "Babes in the Wood," Langley Mill to Stafford; Poole's "Titanic," Rochdale to Newport; "Old Folks at Home," Great Harwood to Nottingham; "Cinderella," Houghton-le-Spring; "Perkins in Paris," Birmingham to Sheffield; "Pride of the Prairie," Barnsley to Castleton; "The Woman He Wanted," Gloucester to Manchester; Moore and Burgess Minstrels, Oakham to Glasgow; "Driven from Home," Nuneaton to Neath; "Dick Whittington" Co., Nelson to Keighley; Margaret Morris' Co., London to Manchester; Stewart Cleveland's party, Southampton to Blackpool; "Silver Creek," Halifax to Langley Mill; the Six Ceylons, Leicester to Rugby; Signor Harvi's Co., Leicester to Liverpool; Excelsiors, Manchester to Margate; Brothers Luck, Bradford to Hull; "Hindle Wakes," Lancaster to Luton; "The Speckled Band," Crystal Palace to Bedford; "Sorrows of Satan," Malvern to Stockton; "Robinson Crusoe," Wakefield to Walsall.

LONDON AND SOUTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.

The undermentioned theatrical parties will be travelling over the London and South-Western Railway Company's route on Sunday next:—Capt. Taylor's performing elephants will leave Waterloo by the 10.2 a.m. train for Guildford; "Angelas" company will travel from Waterloo to Portsmouth by the 10.0 a.m. train; and Mr. John Lawson's company will leave Waterloo by the 12.0 noon train for Poole. Other companies travelling by the L. and S.-W. route will include: Mr. Forbes Robertson's company, Southampton to Portsmouth; "The Chocolate Soldier," Aldershot to the Crystal Palace; Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's "Ready Money," Bournemouth to Swansea; "The Criminal's Bride," Windsor to Leicester; "Diana of Dobson's," Guildford to Tonypandy; "The Turning Point," Brighton to Bournemouth; "Geoffrey Langdon's Wife," Resolven to Bordon; Lawrence Brough's company, Portsmouth to Preston; "New York Burglars," Portsmouth to Chiswick; "Nick Carter" company, Portsmouth to Weymouth; Will May's company, Eastleigh to Atherstone; Russian Dancers, Aldershot to Yeovil; the Six Durhams, Kingston to Portsmouth; "Convent Bells," Bordon to Amesbury; the Seven Bramusas, Aldershot to Surbiton; music hall artistes, Portsmouth to Dublin.

LONDON BRIGHTON AND SOUTH-COAST RAILWAY.

Theatrical movements, Sunday next:—"Jane" Co., Brighton to Victoria; "Turning Point" Co., Brighton to Portsmouth Town; Tiller's Panto. Co., Newhaven to Boscombe; "Sunshine Girl" Co., Portsmouth Town to Brighton; "Gipsy Love" Co., Brighton to East Croydon; "White Slave" Co., Eastbourne to Stratford; "Chocolate Soldier" Co., Aldershot to Crystal Palace; "Collier's Lass" Co., Woolwich to Portsmouth Town; "Ways and Means" Co., Worthing to Preston; "Amazons" Co., Eastbourne to Peterborough; "White Slave" Co., Brighton to Birmingham; March Hares Co., Margate to Brighton; "Bunty Pulls the Strings" Co., Plymouth to Eastbourne.

"Through Death Valley; or, The Mormon Peril" goes to the Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool, next week. The company is headed by Mr. Frank Bertram.

The will of Mrs. Lewis Waller has been admitted to probate. Her estate is of the gross value of £6,532, and the bulk of it is left upon trust for her daughter Nancy and her issue.

MISS ETHEL TAAFFE.

Amongst the many present-day young actresses who are earnestly climbing the Ladder of Fame, Miss Ethel Taaffe is steadily gaining a prominent position. Miss Taaffe, though still in her teens, has for some time past been displaying the possession of diversified acting abilities of no mean order; and these qualifications, wedded to an attractive and charming personality, are deservedly securing prominent recognition.

Miss Taaffe first appeared in small parts in Mr. George Edwardes' "Lady Dandies" and "Merry Widow" No. 1 Companies, on tour; afterwards in "The Proud Prince" at the Lyceum, under the late Mr. Ernest Carpenter's Management. Enterprising Mr Walter Howard then secured her services to take up Miss Annie Saker's part of

[Photo. by Hana.

MISS ETHEL TAAFFE.

Camilla in "The Boy King," and later to play lead in "Tracked by Wireless," on tour. Returning again to London, she appeared with considerable success at the West End halls in Mr. Walter Howard's productions.

The popular young actress has for the past few weeks been playing with pronounced success and considerable charm the principal and exacting part, Mercedes, in Mr. Andrew Melville's excellent production of "Monte Cristo," both in London and in the Provinces. During the past week the drama has enjoyed a splendid week's business at Reading, and next week Miss Taaffe will be seen repeating her engaging impersonation at Brixton.

ROYAL ARTILLERY THEATRE, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, Feb. 10,
"HAMLET."

A return visit is being paid here with this company this week in a repertoire of Shakespearean plays. Comedy, tragedy, drama, each have their separate nights, and all tastes are suited. On the occasion of our visit "Hamlet" was staged. Mr. Frank Cellier himself enacted the arduous rôle of the moody Dane, and his performance was an impressive and finished one. Miss Gertrude Gilbert was excellent as Ophelia, her mad scene being especially well played. Mr. Frank Pringle gave a capital reading of Horatio; the fiery Laertes could hardly have been in better hands than those of Mr. Arthur Layland. Mr. William Podmore gives a powerful rendition of the difficult rôle of Polonius; the crafty King Claudius is cleverly undertaken by Edward Dunstan; Queen Gertrude is admirably portrayed by Miss Sybil Ruskin; Mr. Doane Gardiner acts with quiet dignity as the Ghost, and delivers his lines well; he also doubles the rôle of the Player King. As the Player Queen, Miss Marjorie Allen is very good; Rosencrantz and Guildenstein have in Messrs. Frederick Keen and Alexander Young clever exponents; Messrs. Hawksworth Dix and Christian Morrow extract every ounce of fun from the rôles of First and Second Gravedigger respectively; small parts are capably played by Messrs. Marsh Dunn, Frank Hughes, Walter Carr, and Maurice Ingram. In addition to the abovementioned, are Misses Marion Boughton, Gwen Hawkins, Arline Simms, and Kate Clive, and Mr. Gordon Fleming. Other plays presented during the week have been "The Taming of the Shrew," "Midsummer Night's Dream," "Much Ado About Nothing," "Merry Wives of Windsor," "Macbeth," "Twelfth Night," and "Merchant of Venice." The costumes, scenery, and effects are on a magnificent scale, and the augmented orchestra is under the direction of Mr. Harper Seed, A.R.A.M.; the stage-manager is Mr. Frank Pringle, and the general-manager Mr. Max Gerome, and all work hard to make the engagement the success it is.

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

A Stamped addressed Envelope must be enclosed with application for each Letter. No Circulars or Parcels admitted to this List.

Aplin, Miss May
Arizona, Mr. A.
Arnold, Miss Dolly
Ashby, Miss Dorothy
Athas and Collins
Austin, Mr. S. J.
Bair, Miss Enid
Ball, Mr. W.
Banzai Family
Bard, Miss Nellie
Barrett Sisters
Barrie, Mr. K. Scott
Bass, Mr. Eric
Beauchamp, Mr. John
Bell, Mr. Mostyn
Bell, Mr. W. G. B.
Bell, Mrs.
Beresford, Mr. ("Cowboy's Redemption" Co.)
Blake, Mr. Gus
Boarer, Miss Beatrice
Bourne, Miss Adeline
Brennan, Mr. Will
Brockbank, Mr. Harrison
Bruce and Ross
Burnaby, Mr. Eustace
Burnell, Mr. Geo. R.
Burnett, Mrs. F. H.
Burton, Mr. Aidrie
Burton, Mr. Percy
Bute, Mr. L.
Caicedo, Mr. Juan A.
Calcott, Miss Cissie
Calvert, Mr. Louis
Carlyle, Mr. Ivan
Casey, Miss Dorothy
Chappell, Mr. Archie
Clark, Miss Dorothy
Clayton, Mr. William
Cochran, Mr. Chas.
Codling, Mr. A. J.
Codling, Mrs.
Collings, Miss Patricia
Colven, Mr. Joe
Corolli, Miss J.
Crackles, Mr. William
Cronin, Mr. M.
Cross, Mr. A. B.
Cruikshank, Mr.
Cummin and Seaham
Davis, Mr. Fred.
Dawsone, Mr. Percy
Deane, Mr. Hamilton
Dennis, Mr. Will
Denville, Miss Lillie
Derson, Miss Winnie
Devi, Mr. Geo.
Doris and Francis
Driver, Mr. Edgar
Drury, Miss Lily
Duse, Mme. Eleonora
Edams, Mr. G.
Everard, Mr. Walter
Fannan, Mr. P.
Field, Miss Daisy
Fields, Mr. W. C.
Fishburn, Capt.
Fortescue, Miss
Fossett, Mr. Harry
Gallimore Trio
Gelman, Mr. A.
Gess, Mr. Henry
Gilmour, Mr. A.
Glad Idlers, The
Godfrey, Mr. Arthur
Godwin, Miss Olive
Goodsall, Mr. A.
Graham, Mr. Neville
Graham, Mr. Walter
Granville, Miss H.
Gray, Mr. G. H.
Gregory, Mr. Wilfred
Hall, Mr. J. W.
Hamilton, Miss Belle
Hare, Miss Sybil
Hart, Mr. Phil
Hawley, Mr.
Haworth, C.
Hayman and Franklin
Hennessys, The
Heywood, Mr. W. Mitchell
Hindle, Mr. J.
Holland, Mr. Ellis R.
Holloway, Mr.
Hornsey, Mr. Leonard
Hull, Mr. Jas. Bradley
Humber, Miss Fanny
Hunt, Miss Violet
Hunt, Mr. R. A.
Hyatt, Mr. Percival
Imeson, Mr. Ernest
Irving, Miss Daisy
Ives and Bros.
Julian, Mons.
Kellermann, Miss A.
Kendal, Mr. and Mrs.
Kenyon, Mr. Nell
King, Miss
Knights, Mme. L.
La Martine, Mr. Herbert
Land, Mr. Fred
Landa, Mr. Jack
Latchford, Miss Gertie
Laurens, Senorita M.
Lauri, Mr.
Laurie, Miss Carrie
Lawrence, Mr. Clem
Lawrence, Mr. P.
Leete, Mr. F. D.
Leif, Miss Tiny
Leigh, Mr. Andrew G.
Leigh, Mr. Arthur
Lina and Vane
Levaine, Mr. Harry
Levane, Mme. Ida
Lewis, Mr. Arthur
Lind, Miss Letty
Lindsay, Mr. Kenneth
Lloyd, Miss Florence
Lockwood, Mr. T. R.
Lorimer, Mr. Jack
Lucas, Mr. E. H.
Luigi, Signor Dallara
Macdonald, Miss Nellie
McIntosh, Miss Madge
McKay, Mr. D. S.
MacMahon, Mr. Chas.
McMikol, Miss Mattie
McPherson, Mr. Mervyn
Macpherson, Miss K.
McQuire, Mr. T. C.
Mahers, The Three
Mannix, Mr. J. J.
Mansfield, Miss Genevieve
Mareo, Mr. Eric
Mayfren, Miss Mary
Melville, Mr. Jack
Meredro, Miss M.
Middleton, Mr. John D.
Moran, Mr. J. W.
Morris, Mr. Allen
Mozart, Mr. T.
Mudie, Mr. Geo.
Murray, Miss Gertie
Naase, Miss Caroline
Nethersole, Miss Olga
Norrie, Mr. Russell
Northcote, Mr. A.
Nuku, Mr. H. M.
O'Gorman, Miss Lil
Paxton, Mr.
Payne, Mr. B. Iden
Peterman, Mr. Joe
Pinder, Mr. Eddy
Pollock, Mr. Horace
Purchase, Mr. A.
Ralfs Wilson Trio
Rayson-Cousens, Mr.
Reano, Mr. T. H.
Revy, Miss Aurelie
Reynolds, Mr. Harry
Reynolds, Mr. Thomas
Rhyde, Mr. Thos.
Ridley, Mr.
Riorin, Mr. Karl
Roberts, Mr. Ralph
Robertson, Miss Agnes
Robinson, Mr. Phil
Romeo, Missouri
Rose, Miss
Rose, Mr. Leonard
Rosmer, Mr. Milton
Russell, Mr. Leonard
Sachse, Mr.
Sallier Sisters
Sampson, Mr. C. A.
Samuels, Mr. Dave
Sargent, Mr. Herbert C.
Seymour, Miss Maude
Seymour, Mr. O. G.
Shaw, Mr. W. B.
Sinclair, Miss Vi
Sleath, Mr. Herbert
Smith, Mr. F. E.
Smithers, Mr. Albert
Spaulton, Mr.
Stavordale Quintette
Stiles, Mr. Leslie
Storey, Mr. Fred
Stuart, Mr. Leslie
Sullivan, Mr. Gerald
Summers, Mrs. Mary
Taylor, Rev. A. R.
Thomas, Mr. Rhys
Thorne, Miss M.
Thorpe and Coe
Tonia, Miss Josie
Toy, Mr. Henry S.
Turner, Mr. Alan
Twigg, Mr. Otto
Tyrrell, Miss Florence
Van Biene, Mr. Karl
Van Earle, Mme.
Vane, Miss Edith
Walls, Mr. Tom
Walter, Mr. Eugene
Ward, Miss Fanny
Watson, Miss Mabel
Welch, Mr. James
Wentworth, Miss Fanny
Wentworth, Mr. Reg.
Whelan, Mr. Albert
Whistling Coon
White, Mr. C.
Willard, Mr. James
Wilton, Mr. E.
Wise, Mr. Jack
Wisper
Worrall, Mr. L.
Woulfe, Mr. F. B.
Wright, Mr. Percy
Wynne, Miss Wish
Zuma

RE-ADDRESSING.

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Amongst the audience who witnessed the first performance of "The Glad Eye" at Kennington this week were Miss Ellaline Terriss, Mr. Sam Sothern, and Mr. Arthur Staples. Miss Terriss's brother-in-law, Mr. Stanley Brett, took the part of Bocard in the play. Next week Mr. Edward Compton presents "Everywoman" at the Kennington Theatre. He is travelling the same scenery and effects as were used in the Drury Lane production. Mr. Compton takes Mr. Irving's part of Nobody, and Miss May Congdon fills the rôle of Everywoman.

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ROYAL OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.

On Friday, Feb. 7, "Elektra" was revived, but it is a question whether it is likely to prove a permanent favourite with the public, as it appeals principally by its sensationalism, and there is so much that is merely of a sordid nature in the libretto. The music is also exceedingly morbid and oppressive, however well it may be rendered. On Friday a good representation by Mme. Bahr-Mildenburg of the half-crazy queen, Klytemnestra, was given, and few artistes could have been so powerful and impressive in the part. Mme. Fassbender-Mottl made a very admirable impersonation of Electra, and suggested from her very first entrance the latent madness of the unlucky maiden. A sympathetic interpretation of Chrysothemis was given by Mme. Petzl-Perard, and her singing also was invested with much beauty. Mr. Broderson as Orestes had rather a difficult part, but, of course, there is not much opportunity, as his appearance in the play is brief. Mr. John Bardsley made a good impression in his part of Ægistheus. Miss Jenny Taggart resumed her impersonation of Die Aufscherin, and Mr. Beecham conducted. On Saturday, Feb. 8, the King and Queen and Queen Alexandra attended the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, and witnessed the performance of Strauss's "Rosenkavalier." With their Majesties were Princess Victoria and Prince Arthur of Connaught, and the Hon. Charlotte Knollys, Lord Charles Fitzmaurice, and Colonel Streatfeild were in attendance. At the conclusion of the opera their Majesties' departure was witnessed by a large crowd.

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OUR AMATEURS.

That "some achieve greatness" is a platitude we would quote in encouragement of the members of the Ellesmere Club, yet in comparative infancy but willing and anxious to strengthen its personnel by the addition of capable new members, by whom application should be made to the hon. sec. and treasurer, Mr. Sidney F. Butt. "Tantalizing Tommy," the four-act comedy, by Messrs. Paul Gavault and Michael Morton, was chosen by this club for its ninth performance, at the Cripplegate Theatre, on Feb. 4, but whether from nervousness or insufficient rehearsal, "fluffiness" was again in many cases a marked characteristic of the evening's work. The ladies of the cast were, however, the lesser offenders in this respect. Miss Alys Collier, who knew her lines well, was a fascinating and "tricky" Tommy, her method of bringing the reluctant James "up to the scratch" contributing to a very funny scene. Miss F. Lacey Nicholls also was excellent as the romantic servant, Bertha, and she was well supported by Mr. Ernest H. Howland as the chauffeur, Jennings. Mr. Percy Friend's James Cottenham was another good piece of acting, but Mr. Harry D. Bennett was not at ease in the part of Harry Killick, and relied too much on the overworked prompter. Mr. Fred Donaldson, who was obviously nervous, was inclined to take his words too quickly. Mr. Aubrey West did well as Lord Enderby. We still look forward to seeing some excellent work from this club in the future.

"The King's Blessing," a new play in five acts, by Walter Savage Cooper, with incidental music by T. F. Way, was produced "for copyright purposes" at the Cripplegate Theatre, on Feb. 10. The play is frankly mediæval in treatment, the plot being an amplification of the legend of "good King Wenceslas," familiar to us in Christmas carol, by the addition of a reward of the King's practical virtue in the restoration to him of his long-lost daughter, stolen from him in infancy sixteen years before by the most villainous of villains, Prince Mordred, cousin and heir-presumptive to the throne. The missing princess has been the adopted grandchild of the peasant, to whom the King, with the help of his page, personally bore the restoring "flesh" and "wine," but it is not until the mutual love of the King's unknown daughter and his ward, the youthful Count Stanislaus, has stood the test of false accusations of witchcraft and treason, and the pair are about to be united at the end of the fifth act, that the mystery which has been apparent to a discerning audience from the beginning is revealed to the King. The villain, Mordred, having committed felo de se on the exposure of his marital infidelities in the trial scene of the fourth act, his injured but high-spirited wife retires to a convent, and all ends happily for the youthful pair. The dialogue, which is "blankish" in form, occasionally lapsed into colloquial modernity, and did not contain much beyond what was necessary for the elucidation of the plot, but the "fluffiness" of some of the players possibly prevented full justice being done to the book. To the music, the work of a young composer, Mr. T. F. Way, much praise can be given, and the tuneful and well orchestrated numbers were ably interpreted by an efficient band, under Mr. Maldwyn Jones. The descriptive preludes, especially that to the second act, merit particular notice, and the sextette for village maidens, and the song sung by Miss Margaret Way as Grissel were pleasant numbers excellently rendered, Miss Christine Tempest in the second act singing in the manner that might be expected from a youthful page. Of the long cast it is impossible to speak individually. Miss Doris and Miss Isobel English as Princess Matilda and the forester's unhappy daughter, Bertha, acted with considerable force and animation, and were always fluent and clear. Mr. Dashwood Carter, when not occupied with villainy of the deepest dye, was engaged in the duties of joint stage-manager, the author, Mr. W. Savage Cooper, assisting him in this, as well as taking the part of "good" King Wenceslas. Miss Adelaide Watts acted with intelligence and ease as the lost Princess, and Mr. Berkeley Gascoigne was a picturesque figure as the youthful Stanislaus. Mr. Claude Welch created amusement as the village piper, Gaffer Hugh, but Mr. Philip Jewin's impersonation of the ancient "grandad" was spoilt by the uncompromising youthfulness of his voice. At the close of the play both author and composer were "called" by the applause of their friends.

The choice of Mr. Wilfred T. Colehy's amusing one-act play, "Their Point of View," to precede their pièce de résistance, "Lady Frederick," by the Bancroft Dramatic Club, at the King's Hall, on Feb. 8, was a happy one. Since its production at the Playhouse in April last this clever little piece has not been long out of a West-End bill, and the exposition of the perverted "point of view" of that serenely unmoral and bibulous old humbug, Mrs. Bartlet, was as intriguing as ever. Mrs. Chamberlin played the part of the mother, whose sense of duty makes her try to induce her "artful and God-fearing" younger son to qualify by the commission of a felony for the advantages of the "Home" which she has already successfully obtained for his elder brother, but in this "fat" part, which abounds in quotable "good things," an otherwise clever piece of characterisation was marred by the "fluffiness" which caused her sometimes to get outside her part. She was well supported by Mr. Arthur Stanley as the perplexed chaplain, the Rev. Philip Monkton, and by Mr. H. James Bowley, who was good as the subdued and "reformed" Albert Bartlet. In the name part of Lady Frederick Miss Adèle Muller, though a newcomer to this club, soon "made good" by her impersonation of the impecunious, impulsive and true-hearted Irishwoman, not the least of whose charms was her peculiarly infectious laugh. Her comedy powers had full play in her scene with Mme. Claude, in which part Mrs. Herbert Ford scored as the flattered and mollified dressmaker. Miss Gertie Imray played freshly as Rose Carlisle, and Miss Edyth Cadbury Brown realised well the characteristics of Lady Mereston. As the cynically genial Paradine Foulder Mr. David Davies was crisply good. Mr. Lionel Cornish was freshly débonair as "Chairlie," his disillusion and perplexity in the third act being cleverly indicated. Other good pieces of work were the veiled "bounderism" of Captain Montgomerie as given by Mr. E. W. Peall, the choleric Admiral Carlisle of Mr. Herbert Lawford and the quietly consistent foreign waiter of Mr. Alex. J. Neill. Mr. Reginald Blackmore's acting was more easy than the delivery of his lines, which was inclined to monotony. Mr. Sydney Wallace was responsible for the production of "Lady Frederick," "Her Point of View" being under the joint direction of Messrs. H. J. Bowley and E. W. Peall.

In the Provinces.

The members of the Springhead Dramatic Society, Oldham, should be proud of their excellent production of "Hamlet" on Feb. 4, and the public supported them in no uncertain manner. Much time and money had been spent in the representation, and the result was satisfactory to all. Messrs. S. and J. McAuliffe, W. Lowe, and L. Moore, shared the duties of stage-management, and they were most successful. The artistes proved quite equal to the demands of the various characters, and a crowded house gave them a hearty welcome. Mr. J. E. McDougal gave a finished and impressive impersonation of the moody Dane; Miss A. Jenkinson, in the part of Ophelia, was admirable. As the Queen, Miss Lily Wood deserves much praise for the manner in which she spoke her lines, and the impersonation throughout was a very natural one. Mr. J. C. Jenkinson was a majestic King, and Mr. E. Settle as Polonius acted cleverly, whilst Mr. H. Beaumont as Laertes, and Mr. H. Hirst as Horatio, filled their parts with credit. A word of praise is due to Mrs. S. Ferguson as the Player Queen, and Mr. W. Greenwood also did excellently. Very amusing were Mr. S. Ferguson and Mr. H. Shaw as First and Second Gravedigger. Mr. A. Wrigley did well as the Priest. Mr. E. Kenworthy as the Ghost gave a capital portrayal, and minor characters were satisfactorily enacted. The dresses were supplied by J. Birkenshaw and Sons, Liverpool, and Mr. F. Brough's band supplied the instrumental music.

The satisfactory results obtained on the three nights when "The Fool and His Money," by H. J. Byron, was presented, speaks volumes for those who manage the affairs of the Crieff Comedy Company. The hall was crowded all nights with a fashionable audience, and they were amply repaid. Mr. Callum as Brabazon Vandeleur gave a clever and carefully acted study. The part of Mr. Pentland was taken by Mr. Rogerson, who was true to life. Mr. A. P. Mill as Chawles was responsible for a finished impersonation. Milligan was played in a pleasing way by Mr. Kay, and Mr. Fourth took the part of Percival Ransome excellently. The ladies, too, figured very well. As Kate Vandeleur, Miss Best interpreted her part very intelligently; as also did Miss Wilson in Mary Draper. For the first appearance of Miss Maclean, her performance was very neat; with a little more confidence she should be able to give a good account of herself in the future. She took the parts of Mrs. Rumsey and Jane Penfold. The scenery and general staging left nothing to be desired. The orchestra was under the able leadership of Mr. Dickson. The proceeds were devoted to the Cottage Hospital.

Mr. George Thorne (the popular comedian, late of the D'Oyly Carte Princial Répertoire Opera Company) produced "The Mikado" for the Blackburn Meistersinger Amateur Opera Company at the Theatre Royal, in that town, and it proved highly successful, adding a substantial sum to the £1,000 already collected by that society since its formation. Mr. Thorne (by permission of Mrs. Helen D'Oyly Carte) played his old part of Koko at the Saturday matinée (Jan. 25), and at the end of the performance was presented by the principals with a silver cigar-case and by the society and the theatre management with a gold bangle ring. The week's festivities wound up with a "Jap" ball at the Assembly Rooms.

For the fifth annual production of the Belper Amateur Operatic Society, Alfred Cellier's charming work "Dorothy" was chosen, and the five performances given in the Belper Public Hall resulted in a gratifying success, both from the artistic and financial point of view. The receipts, which were to be devoted to local charities, constituted a record, and the work of the members reached a higher level than on any previous occasion. The society has the assistance of Mr. and Mrs. J. Wilson Worsnop, who were for a long time associated with the old Derby Lyric Opera Society, and to their efforts much of the success is undoubtedly due. Mrs. Worsnop, who still acts under her maiden name of Miss Florence Eyre, submitted a graceful rendering of the title-rôle, her fine voice being heard to great advantage in the several well-known songs which fall to the part. A finished actress in all that she does, Miss Eyre was never at a loss. Mr. J. W. Worsnop was the Harry Sherwood, and he acted and sang the part with conspicuous ability. Mr. Ted Baldwin proved himself a clever comedian, and his work as Lurcher, the sheriff's officer, was always amusing without being overdrawn. Miss Mary Baldwin was a dainty Lydia, but Mr. J. E. Mather, the Geoffrey Wilder, while singing excellently, seemed to lack confidence, and was somewhat crude in his actions. Mr. Will Adderley as Squire Bantam and Miss Hilda Greaves as Phyllis Tuppit were responsible for good work, and the other parts were well taken. The chorus was excellent, and an efficient orchestra was ably directed by Mr. Field Baldwin. Mr. J. W. Worsnop was the stage-manager, and was responsible for a large share of the initial work, while the incidental dances were arranged by Mrs. J. W. Worsnop.

The Matlock Operatic Society's production of "The Yeomen of the Guard" was distinctly creditable, and was exceedingly well supported. In Mr. Arthur W. Bond the society has an experienced stage-manager and producer, and much of the success achieved is due to his untiring work at rehearsals. Miss Blanche Newton played the rôle of Elsie Maynard with much artistic charm. She has been leading lady of the society for several years past, and her work this year has added much to her reputation. Miss Jessie Dickinson invested the part of Phœbe with a saucy daintiness which was very pleasing, and both she and Miss Newton sang excellently. Mr. T. Smith, the Colonel Fairfax, made a successful début with the society, while Mr. W. Robson was an agile and witty Jack Point. Mr. A. W. Bond played the head jailer with distinction, and his duet with Mr. Robson, "Hereupon we're both agreed," was encored three or four times nightly. Mr. L. G. Dickinson's fine voice was heard to advantage as Sergt. Meryll, and the other parts were generally well sustained. The chorus accomplished excellent work, and Mr. G. W. Johnstone proved an efficient musical-director. "The Yeomen of the Guard" was played at the Assembly Rooms, Matlock, five nights, and at the Kursaal, Matlock Baths, on the following Monday and Tuesday.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

[We do not answer inquiries by post. In all letters the names and addresses of inquirers must be given as a guarantee of good faith. Initials only or pseudonyms will be used in the answers if so desired.]

LANCASHIRE.—*We cannot say. The only persons who could tell you would be his agents.*

A. W. HANDFORD.—*We are making inquiries of the theatre management. No answer yet.*

CARL R. LOOP (American Consular Service). —*Will endeavour to answer you next week.*

EMPIRE.—*There are no penalties attached to your describing yourself as you do, even if such description is used by another in advertising his act. It is simply a personal matter, and one in which it is not easy to offer advice. Nobody, certainly, can claim originality for such a title.*

G. T. F. (YORK).—*Miss Vesta Tilley is the daughter of Mr. Harry Ball, and the wife of Walter de Frece. Her birthday is May 13. The year of her birth is her own secret. You surely do not imagine that artistes give away their ages to the professional Press. Miss Marie Lloyd makes no secret of hers, but she is the exception that goes to prove the rule. We do not answer correspondents by post.*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a Birth, a Marriage, or a Death, or an "In Memoriam" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is One Shilling and Sixpence.

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MARRIAGE.

LIPTON—SAYER.—On Feb. 11, Joe Lipton to partner, Phyllis Sayer (The Liptons), at Parish Church, Hyson Green, Nottingham.

DEATHS.

BRADY.—On Monday, Feb. 10, 1913, at his residence, 61, Larkhall Rise, Clapham, John Albert, the beloved husband of Marion Brady (Brady and Johnson), and father of Albert Felino and Rosie and Veronica Brady. R.I.P.

BUDD.—On the 4th inst., at New York, after an operation, Herbert, youngest son of the late George Calkin and Amelia Budd, aged 51 years.

HENRY, KITTY WALFORD.—Suddenly, at the Manor House, Macduff, from heart failure, after only a short illness, Kitty Walford Henry, age 22. Sister of Mrs. Walford Bodie, Bella Skene (La Belle Electra), Wm. Skene Henry, Nellie Langtry, and the late Mystic Marie, and Mlle. Marie Louise. American, Canadian, and Australian papers please copy.

ONZELLA, TOBE (Arthur William Hedger).—Died in London Jan. 24, deeply regretted by his sister and brother (Alice and Fred). Was buried at Margate Cemetery, Feb. 3.

SHEARD.—Feb. 11, at 36, Norfolk-road, Seven Kings, after a long and painful illness, Charles Henry Sheard, senior partner in the firm of Charles Sheard and Co., music publishers, 196, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.C. Interment at Highgate Cemetery, Monday, Feb. 17, twelve o'clock.

WEBSTER.—On Feb. 7, at 38, Flanders-mansions, Bedford Park, Thomas Webster, late Fellow of Trinity, Cambridge, in his 81st year.

IN MEMORIAM.

CAMPBELL.—In sad but loving memory of my dearly loved husband, Denis Campbell, who fell asleep Feb. 19, 1909. Ever mourned by his sorrowing wife, Annie Barclay. Rest in peace.

MAYVILLE.—In affectionate memory of my dear husband, Harry, who died so suddenly, Feb. 12, 1912. Still mourned by his loving wife, Elsie, and family.

SOMERFIELD.—In ever loving memory of my darling husband, Fred C. Somerfield, who passed away Feb. 14, 1910. Gone, but never forgotten by his ever loving wife, Mary.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish many happy returns of the day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Minnie Durham—Saturday, Feb. 15.
Will Smithson—Sunday, Feb. 16.
Arthur Shirley—Monday, Feb. 17.
David G. Noble—Monday, Feb. 17.
J. Farren Soutar—Monday, Feb. 17.
Walter Pearce—Monday, Feb. 17.
Charles Rezene—Tuesday, Feb. 18.
George Gulliver—Tuesday, Feb. 18.
Emmie Ames—Tuesday, Feb. 18.
Mme. Adelina Patti—Wednesday, Feb. 19.
Ethel Gordon—Thursday, Feb. 20.
Dot Sealby—Thursday, Feb. 20.
Pascoe Bioletti—Thursday, Feb. 20.
Gertie Millar—Friday, Feb. 21.

The thirtieth annual grand evening concert in aid of the Widows' and Orphans' Fund and Permanently Disabled Members' Fund of the Railways Universal Friendly Society was held on Thursday (6th) at the Shoreditch Town Hall, and proved in all respects a distinct success. Several well-known artistes contributed to the programme, which opened with a selection of excerpts from Sullivan's operas, this being effectively rendered by the band of His Majesty's Irish Guards, under the baton of Mr. C. Hassell. The sentimental vocalists were excellent. Miss Kate Rooney, a singer gifted with a powerful mezzo-soprano voice, received an ovation for her items, "When you come home" and "For the years to come." Miss Winifred Marwood has a magnificent soprano voice, and her enunciation was splendid, her rendering of "Speak from your heaven beloved" and "Bird of love divine" showing that she has all the qualities which make for success. Messrs. Gerald O'Brien (tenor) and Mr. Montague Borwell (baritone) also contributed excellent numbers, and well sustained their reputations. The lighter part of the programme was no less successful, Miss Jessie Mountjoy being delightfully humorous at the piano, her item "Bunty pulls the Strings" being a great hit, whilst Mr. Fred Curtis gave a funny sketch, "Mother Hubbard." A very gratifying reception was accorded Mr. Finlay Dunn, "the old gentleman with the bald head who makes the people laugh," as a juvenile admirer once described him. His burlesque of a pianist at a picture palace simply brought the house down, and the audience was not satisfied until he had given two more humorous items.

"I'll swear upon that bottle."
—*Tempest, Act ii., Scene ii.*

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"Drink and fear not."
—*Henry VI., Act ii., Scene iii.*

BOW PALACE.

On Monday, Feb. 10, the Pantomime, entitled "GOODY TWO SHOES."

Seldom, if ever, have the patrons of Bow Palace been regaled with such fare as is presented this week in Mr. James A. Albert's company, "Goody Two Shoes." From beginning to end the fun is fast and furious, and the catchy songs, pretty dresses, and tasteful mounting are fully in accordance with the general excellence of the production. It is truly a different pantomime, and this departure from the orthodox was more than appreciated by a house filled to overflowing on the occasion of our visit. The company included the versatile comedian, E. D. Nicholls, as Sir Goosie Drake, and he is quite at home in the rôle of a quack doctor, his subtle humour never failing, and his description of a modern drama being excruciatingly funny. Mr. Eric Campbell was quite dignified as Lady Duckie Drake, and highly diverting, as also was Mr. Matt Wilkinson as Angelina Wax and Mr. Leo Main caused not a little merriment as Snobbie Wax, a waxy cobbler. Messrs. Somers and Walmer were also very amusing as Alexander and Maxmillian respectively.

In the title-rôle, Miss Maudie Francis proved herself an artist to her finger tips, so thoroughly did she enter into the spirit of the part. Her rendering of "I've got a sweetheart now" proved her to possess a charm and vivacity as well as natural ability and daintiness. Apart from the number, which is very tuneful, her vocalism was quite praiseworthy. She is a little lady with a big future. The Vivian of Miss Dora Sephton was a studied and skilled rendition. She has a fine voice, and quite deserved the applause she gained. As Electra, every girl's good fairy, Miss Dolly Venton submitted a clever performance. Her contribution, "Billy," was very well sung. She has, for one so young, a powerful and pretty voice, although her high notes are a little strained. As Betti, the faithful attendant, Miss Violet Beatrice showed a thorough knowledge of her part, and the Solar of Mr. G. Fredericks created an excellent impression. The chorus, including Sidney Russell's Dancing Girls, was full and effective, and bore evidence of careful and persistent rehearsal. The production, in the capable hands of Mr. Frederic Baugh, left nothing to be desired.

Though the Clarence Entertainers (Maple's, Ltd.) are yet in their infancy, they have already done good work, and on Thursday evening last the King's Hall Theatre, Covent Garden, was crowded with an appreciative audience to witness Mr. H. A. Jones's comedy, "The Bauble Shop," a play which bears signs of its early origin that interpolated local and up-to-date topical allusions failed to remove. Two pieces of acting stand out in this performance—that of the producer, Mr. E. H. Symonds, in a quietly consistent sketch of the rather unsatisfactory and colourless "hero," Lord Clivebrooke; and Mr. Cardell Oliver's embodiment of the weak and intemperate old inventor who is always "going to" turn over a new leaf. Miss Irene Stevenson failed to be quite convincing as Jessie Keber, though she had her moments in the second act. Mr. H. Murnaghan was inclined to monotony in the character of the "villain," Stoach; and Mr. L. Stephenson surely made Charley Teviot more of a "silly ass" than was necessary. Miss Annette L. Broadley was charming and womanly as Lady Kate Ffennell, but Miss Margery Wood was at first only fairly successful as "Gussie," improving, however, later on as Mrs. Charley Teviot. The remaining members of a large cast all worked hard to attain success. The local allusions of the "deputation from Tottenham Court-road," and on other occasions during the progress of the play, were understood and much appreciated by an audience which partook of the nature of a large and agreeable family party.

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THE ENCORE, May 26, 1910.

We have just received the third edition of Mr. Albert A. Strong's book on Theatrical and Musical Law, which is published at "The Era" Office, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand. Since the second edition of his work was published—nine years—many changes have taken place in the laws relating to entertainments, and these have necessitated a considerable enlargement of the volume. Full texts of the recent Berlin Convention and the United States Copyright Law are included in this edition, in which is also published the awards governing the relations between artists, agents, and managers. A number of new cases are also cited illustrating the effects of the barring clause. The Musical Copyright Act, children on the stage, the sketch question, and the Workmen's Compensation Act are all fully dealt with and in a readable and easy style, as free as possible from legal phraseology and technicalities. It is a legal axiom that ignorance of the law is no excuse for breaking it, and, therefore, it behoves everyone connected with the entertainment world to make himself acquainted with the law as it stands in relation to the profession or business in which he may be engaged. To every one connected with the Drama or Variety Mr. Strong's book is a necessity, and this last edition is so comprehensive that anyone who consults it can have no possible excuse for infringing the law on the ground of ignorance. The work will, no doubt, have a ready and rapid sale, for all artists, managers, and agents should have it at hand.

THE ERA, July 30, 1910.

Important changes in the law affecting the amusement professions have been made since the issue, nine years ago, of the second edition of Mr. Albert A. Strong's valuable book on Theatrical and Musical Law, and the third edition, just published, comes opportunely to hand. The work has been greatly enlarged, upwards of sixty additional pages being required to accommodate the mass of new information. The publication has been brought as nearly as possible up to date, and within its pages will be found analyses of important measures which have been adopted both in Parliament and out. There is, for instance, the full text of the recent Berlin Convention, and the new Copyright Act of the United States. The awards governing the relations between managers, artists, and agents are reproduced in their entirety, and a number of fresh cases illustrating the effect of the barring clauses is included.

The Musical Copyright Act, by which tardy justice was secured to song-writers and publishers, is given in full, and a digest of the measure, bringing out its salient features, is also printed. A whole chapter is now devoted to the subject of children on the stage, and the important question of the Workmen's Compensation Act is exhaustively dealt with. All the decisions of the Courts affecting theatres and music halls are referred to, many notable cases being recalled. The law governing dramatic and musical copyright is defined as clearly as its intricacies will allow, and a reliable indication of the methods to be adopted in securing protection is afforded. The progress made in the question of licensing has been too slow to allow of more than a reproduction of the terms of agreement entered into between the representatives of theatres and music halls regarding sketches, but pronouncements under that heading are numerous.

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Kyasht, Mlle. Lydia	Nov. 9, 1912
Laurel, Late Mrs. Sid	March 9, 1912
Leslie, Mr. Fred	Aug. 3, 1912
Leveaux, Mr. M. V.	July 13, 1912
Lingard, Mr. Oswald	June 15, 1912
Lotinga, Mr. and Mrs. Ernie (Hetty King)	Nov. 9, 1912
Lotto, Late Mr. Alf.	Nov. 2, 1912
Lovell, Miss Florence	Dec. 9, 1911
Lucretia, Mlle.	Feb. 1, 1913
Lyons, Mr. Harry	Jan. 13, 1912
Maas, Miss Hilda	June 22, 1912
Marlein, Mr. Hugh	Oct. 14, 1911
Marvello, Mr. Harry	March 30, 1912
Mayer, Mr. Ernest	Oct. 14, 1911
Mayne, Mr. Eric	Aug. 24, 1912
Mayville, Late Mr. Harry	Feb. 17, 1912
McAskell, Mr. Allan	Jan. 13, 1912
McKay, Jock	July 27, 1912
Meyer, Mr. Bertie A.	Jan. 13, 1912
Milne, Miss Georgina	Dec. 7, 1912
Mollison, Late Mr. William	Dec. 23, 1911
Morley, Mr. Robertson	Jan. 27, 1912
Moss, Late Sir Edward	Nov. 30, 1912
Newman, Mr. Arthur	Jan. 18, 1913
Newsome, Late Mr. James	Jan. 6, 1912
Nora, Miss Nellie	Aug. 31, 1912
Parker, Mr. Frank	March 16, 1912
Paton, Mr. Mark	July 13, 1912
Pearson, Mr. Herbert	Nov. 11, 1911
Penley, Late Mr. W. S.	Nov. 16, 1912
Permane, Captain	June 15, 1912
Founds, Mr. Courtice	Aug. 10, 1912
Powell, Mr. Templer	May 11, 1912
Rae, Mr. George	Feb. 3, 1912
Reed, Late Mr. F. A.	Jan. 20, 1912
Relph, Miss Phyllis	Oct. 26, 1912
Richards, Miss Josephine	Aug. 17, 1912
Rickards, Late Mr. Harry	Oct. 14, 1911
Rignold, Late Mr. George	Dec. 21, 1912
Robins, Miss Gertrude	Feb. 1, 1913
Romaine, Miss Claire	Dec. 23, 1911
Ross, Mr. Fredk.	Oct. 5, 1912
Ross, Mr. J. Halford	Dec. 16, 1911
Rosslyn, Miss Elizabeth	Jan. 25, 1913
Randegger, Late Signor Alberto	Dec. 23, 1911
Saker, Late Mrs. Edward	Feb. 10, 1912
Sanger, Late Mr. George	Dec. 2, 1911
Sheen, Mr. W. P.	Jan. 6, 1912
Shippobottam, Mr. P.	March 2, 1912
Sinden, Miss Topsy	Sept. 14, 1912
Slater, Mr. Dundas	July 13, 1912
St. John, Late Miss Florence	Feb. 3, 1912
St. John, Mr. Gale	July 20, 1912
Summers, Late Miss Julia	Feb. 24, 1912
Swallow, Miss Margaret	Aug. 24, 1912
Swift, Mrs. Emma	June 22, 1912
Sydney, Mr. Roy G.	Aug. 3, 1912
Taaffe, Miss Ethel	Nov. 23, 1912
Talbot, Mr. Harry	Aug. 17, 1912
Tellegen, M. Lou	Oct. 12, 1912
Thorne, Miss Rosaline	Nov. 11, 1911
Tschaikowsky, Miss Vera	Nov. 9, 1912
Tymes, The	Feb. 10, 1912
Van Biene, Late Mr. Auguste	Jan. 25, 1913
Vincent, Miss Ruth	July 27, 1912
Wallett, Late Mr. Russell	March 16, 1912
Walton and Lester	Aug. 24, 1912
Ward, Mr. Theo.	Nov. 4, 1911
Watson, Mr. Douglas L.	Jan. 27, 1912
Weathersby, Late Mr. Geo. M.	Dec. 9, 1911
Webster, Mr. Ben	July 20, 1912
Weir, Miss Frances	Jan. 4, 1913
Wilkinson, Miss Poppy	Nov. 25, 1911
Wix, Miss Florence	Feb. 24, 1912
Wright, Late Mr. Fred.	Oct. 21, 1911
Wright, Mr. Lawrence	Dec. 2, 1911
Zets, The Two (Leo and Dolly)	Dec. 30, 1911

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THE ERA

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1913.

THE A.A. AND THE NATIONAL THEATRE.

It is not often that one is able to sympathise with two speakers at a meeting who, at first glance, appear to be advocating directly opposite views; but this is our case with regard to the speeches of Sir HERBERT TREE and Mr. CLARENCE DERWENT at the annual general meeting of the Actors' Association at His Majesty's Theatre on Tuesday. The point at issue was whether the Actors' Association should be represented on the Executive Committee of the Shakespeare Memorial Fund, and, incidentally, the interviews and articles which have lately appeared in this paper came into question; and Sir HERBERT TREE, in a speech which would have done honour to a Prime Minister, made some very reassuring and interesting statements.

One of these was that the accounts of the receipts and expenditure of the Fund were produced annually to the Executive Committee, and were placed on a table for the benefit of members who desired information. In that case, we think the Secretary of the Fund would have shown more tact had he, when we first communicated with him, simply forwarded us last year's "annual report" of the Fund, and copies of the reports for the previous years. We are not members of the Executive Committee; but surely information of public interest, concerning a scheme to which the public have largely contributed, and to which they are being still invited to contribute, need not have been withheld from our readers, many of whom have assisted the Fund directly or indirectly? Probably this action on the part of the Secretary was one of the "mistakes" alluded to by Sir HERBERT in his speech.

Sir HERBERT TREE also informed the meeting that the differences of opinion between the two parties on the Committee had been completely wiped out; and that all expenditure was authorised by the Finance Committee, whose names he read out. The list is quite reassuring; and it seems a pity that the excellent work done by this Committee should, by the secretive action of the Secretary, be concealed from the public knowledge, and the members of the Committee deprived of the public gratitude and approbation which would be the reward of their actions.

We should have thought, too, that the Secretary and the Executive Committee of the Fund would have hailed with satisfaction any opportunity of publicity. We daily receive by post annual reports of public companies connected with theatres and amusement speculations; and these are generally accompanied by a request to publish either the whole report or a summary of it. The refusal of similar information by the Secretary of the Shakespeare Memorial Fund is so unusual a course that we cannot wonder—human nature being what it is—that there is a growing feeling of uneasiness and dissatisfaction resulting in the letters and statements which we have printed. Why should the balance-sheet be withheld from the hundreds who are interested in a National Theatre, and only placed at the disposal of the forty people who constitute the Executive Committee?

We are quite in sympathy with the spirit of Mr. CLARENCE DERWENT'S resolution, which was carried with only three dissentients. It is agreeable to observe that the representative body of English actors "views with grave concern the lack of progress made in connection with the National Theatre." We print elsewhere interviews with two persons who may be imagined to express the views of two parties in connection with the National Theatre scheme.

It is one of the most honourable symptoms of our modern "smart set" that it demands that aspirants to social leadership and distinction shall be "up and doing," and shall distinguish themselves in the public interest. Mrs. CORNWALLIS WEST'S achievements when in charge of the hospital-ship "Maine" in South Africa have made her well known and popular with all classes, especially the highest, and her management of the Shakespeare Ball and the Exhibition at Earl's Court have given her the right to an opinion on the conduct of the Shakespeare Memorial Fund. We are sorry that she holds the opinions expressed in her interview, as we feel certain that, did she think otherwise, she is just the woman to "wake up" things on the Executive Committee, beard the honorary secretary in his chair at Clifton Gardens, and induce him to abandon his attitude of dignified reticence and diplomatic inertia. Miss HORNIMAN is a working woman of a different type. She is not a leader of society, finding her time fairly well filled up with her various repertory theatre enterprises. She has generously devoted a large part of her income to the higher interests of dramatic art, and has shown in her conduct of affairs a remarkable mixture of energy and judgment, combating difficulties and overcoming them with a dauntless spirit and a steady perseverance that have ensured success. That she is a practical manageress the success of her experiment at the Gaiety, Manchester, proves. We feel sure that Miss HORNIMAN is only one of many who, like LADY GOMME and Mr. WM. POEL, share our sentiments regarding the Shakespeare Memorial Fund; and we shall welcome correspondence from any who can throw further light on this involved and umbrageous subject.

What Sir HERBERT TREE said at the meeting on Tuesday is quite true. We shall do no real good by newspaper agitation. What is needed, as Mr. WM. POEL suggests, is a public meeting to demand disclosure and progress—a meeting sufficiently large and important to supply the necessary pressure and to make the position of reticence taken up by the powers that be at Whitehall House too hot for them to be able to hold it. We must, indeed, be patient. We must keep on patiently "pegging away" until the secretary, like the noble animal in Professor RAINEY'S recently-exhibited cinematograph film, is obliged, by our persistent baying, to "break cover," and come out "into the open." We shall be pleased to receive the names of any ladies and gentlemen who are willing to take prominent positions at such a meeting, with information as to whether they will be prepared to speak or desire merely to give the support of their presence. Above all, we invite correspondence from those who have actually sent contributions to the Fund, either in London or the provinces. They have a right to the information which we have asked for merely on general grounds. They are in the position of shareholders in the Shakespeare Memorial Company, Limited, and they can demand, not merely request, an account. In this way, and in this way only, can the "deadlock," so distinctly described by Mr. POEL, be removed. The egg, as Sir HERBERT said, is not yet hatched. We must not let the hen sit until it is addled.

"SHAKESPEARE'S ENGLAND."

In the King's Bench Division, on Wednesday, Mr. Vernon W. Worsdale, of New Southgate, sued Earl's Court, Ltd., to obtain 5 per cent. commission on a sum of £17,500. He alleged the commission was due under agreements entered into between him and the company in 1911 for effecting the introduction to the company of Mrs. George Cornwallis-West, in connection with the "Shakespeare's England" Exhibition at the Earl's Court grounds last year.

The defendants disputed the alleged agreements.

Counsel: For the plaintiff, Mr. Duke, K.C., and Mr. Palmer; for the defendants, Mr. F. E. Smith, K.C., and Mr. Harold Smith.

Mr. Duke said that Mr. Worsdale was a director of Earl's Court, Ltd. Under the articles of association he could make a bargain with the company by which he might become entitled to remuneration for certain services he might render. At the end of 1910 and early in 1911, Earl's Court, Ltd., were in negotiation with the Shakespeare Memorial Committee, who had an idea of utilising Earl's Court for the purpose of holding an exhibition. Those negotiations did not come to a successful head; and in August, 1911, Mr. Woodhouse managing director of Earl's Court, Ltd., promised Mr. Worsdale, in the name of the board of directors, that if he brought about an introduction of the board to Mrs. George Cornwallis-West, and a satisfactory result followed, the company would remunerate him. He was to have 5 per cent. of the defendants' profits from the exhibition. The defendants' share of the profits amounted to £17,000 or £18,000.

Mr Worsdale, giving evidence in support of his case, said he was asked to see Mrs. George Cornwallis-West and get her to exercise the option or to take Earl's Court for a longer period. The terms on which Mrs. George Cornwallis-West was to have Earl's Court were £750 down, £750 on a date in January, 30 per cent. of the gate receipts, or 20 per cent. of the net profits.

The hearing was adjourned till Thursday, when Mrs. George Cornwallis-West, residing at Norfolk-street, Park-lane, was called for the defence, and said that she first became interested in the Shakespeare memorial scheme in 1910, and a ball was held in June, 1911. At that time she had an idea of a celebration on a larger scale, and various schemes were suggested, amongst them a Christmas fair or shopping week, or something of that kind. She went to Earl's Court and had a look at the buildings there. She did not look at the grounds, as their use was not contemplated at that time. The project fell through, as the Shakespeare Memorial Committee, with whom she had certain communications, and so forth, could not see their way to back her up in it. There was some question of insurance, and also there was a good deal of industrial unrest in the country, and it was also thought the time would be too short. As a result the project was dropped entirely, and she went off to Scotland. Witness went on to say that the idea of a summer exhibition was taken up in October, and the contract with defendants was signed on January 25. Under this no money was to be paid, but the Shakespeare Memorial Committee was to receive a certain proportion of the gate money—one half she thought it was.

The hearing was again adjourned.

Princess Henry of Battenberg witnessed the performance of "Gipsy Love" at Daly's Theatre on Tuesday.

THE NATIONAL THEATRE.

INTERVIEW WITH MRS. GEORGE CORNWALLIS-WEST.

Mrs. Cornwallis-West is one of the "smartest" women in London. She is a Lady of Grace of St. John of Jerusalem, has the Royal Red Cross and the Crown of India, and is an expert authoress. Logically, we should not have enquired of her at all about the National Theatre, as she is not on the committee, and it was with a full sense of the courtesy conferred that our representative waited upon her at her beautiful house in Norfolk-street, Park-lane.

"What do you want of me?" said Mrs. Cornwallis-West, with a look that made our representative shake in his shoes.

"We are seeking for all the information we can get about the National Theatre. We thought that possibly you might throw some light on the subject."

"What business is it of yours, may I ask? Why can't you let the Fund alone?"

"Well, you see, on a newspaper, one is in a way at the disposal of one's readers and subscribers. People come to us and make statements, possibly untrue, but still plausible. We are in favour of doing everything above board; and so we go to the people attacked and give them an opportunity of speaking out and setting things right. For instance, some of our patrons are curious to know what were the financial relations between the National Theatre Fund and your Shakespeare Exhibition at Earl's Court?"

"I think it's a great pity people haven't something better to think about than other people's affairs! It is just these people who do nothing themselves and give away nothing who are the first to make ill-natured remarks about those who do both!"

"Of course, Mrs. Cornwallis-West, you are quite at liberty not to say anything, but——"

"Well, you can tell your *readers* that *I* originated the Shakespeare Exhibition, organised and promoted it, and carried it through entirely 'on my own.' The Shakespeare Memorial Fund gave me friendly assistance freely; but they did not capitalise me, nor did they 'guarantee' my enterprise. Had it not been for the wet weather that set in I should have been able to hand over a substantial sum to the Fund. And in order that everything might be *en règle*, I took my name off the committee of the Fund before I started the Shakespeare Exhibition at Earl's Court. But I shall put my name on again," said Mrs. Cornwallis-West, standing in front of the fire-place, her handsome features showing intense indignation, and her dark eyes flashing with scorn. "And may I ask what business is it of yours?"

"Not so much ours, but that of the public who have subscribed to the Fund."

"The names on the committee should be sufficient guarantee."

"I am afraid past experiences of limited liability companies have made the public somewhat sceptical——"

"'Sceptical!' They've no business to be sceptical when they neither help or give, and I should think more of 'The Era' if it turned a deaf ear to all criticisms of the National Theatre Fund Committee."

INTERVIEW WITH MISS HORNIMAN.

Miss Horniman, whose "American contingent" of her Repertory Theatre company recently started for Montreal, has very strong opinions concerning the National Theatre. As to the practicability of the scheme, she, as a woman with real experiences, has no misgivings.

"The real difficulty in connection with a National Theatre in London is that of a site. The land of London, I believe, is owned by about eight people, all of whom are immensely rich. It is simply astounding that the great ground landlords of the metropolis have left to the County Council, a democratic body, to provide a site for a National Theatre. The ground landlords get thousands, millions, out of the people of London; and it would be a graceful and generous act if one of them were to show an example to the rest by the gift of a site. Surely, London has some claim on these ground landlords. Dublin had no claim whatever on me; and for six years I devoted a third of my income to subsidising a Repertory Theatre in that city."

"Then, putting aside the cost of a site, you think the sum subscribed already is sufficient to make a beginning?"

"Certainly. Give me only £40,000 and a site and I would guarantee to start a moderate-sized civilised theatre, and eventually make it pay."

"What is the smallest theatre which you would think possible for the purpose?"

"I should say the house should ho'd about 1,500 to 1,700 persons, with 5s. stalls, and every seat in the house numbered; no boxes, no free list, except for the Press, and no orchestra unless it was required for the play. I have come to the conclusion that boxes in any theatre are a mistake. They encourage inattention and conversation, and these, the occupants of the boxes being conspicuous, have a bad influence on the attitude of the whole audience. They are a survival from the time when the important action of the play took place on an 'apron.' And they are in favour with a class of spectator who is out of place in an Art Theatre—the people who come in late after long dinners."

"To return to the Shakespeare Memorial Fund. Do you agree with our attempts to 'wake up' matters, and with our demands for a statement?"

"Emphatically and entirely. I became one of the committee when the thing was started, and I have subscribed ever since; but *I feel so strongly on the subject that, unless a full account of the expenditure be supplied in response to your demand, I shall cease my annual subscription.*"

"Then you are for the fullest investigation and the most complete disclosure?"

"I require such a balance-sheet as is supplied by hospitals, orphanages, and public companies to those connected with them. Also, are lunches and teas supplied to the innermost committee? As to champagne . . . . ? And I want to know what salaries are being paid to officials."

"And you, like Mr. Poel, are in favour of an indignation meeting being held to protest against the present state of affairs?"

"A meeting would be right if you can find men with courage enough to demand accounts publicly."

"The difficulty we find is that so many people own that they agree with us as to the necessity of a public protest; but, after making statements to that effect, say, 'I must ask you to consider what I have just said confidential'—which, of course, is discouraging."

"I know that people with social aims and pretensions have a certain timidity. But as I am a busy person, with obviously no hope of a knighthood, you can publish my opinions. If only someone would do something instead of talking about it!"

"The Yellow Jacket," a play in which an attempt is made to realise the primitive conditions of the Chinese stage, has been secured by Mr. Gaston Mayer and Mr. Robert Loraine, and will be produced in due course in the West End. The piece, which is written by George C. Hazleton and J. Harry Benrions, was originally brought out in New York last November, and is said to be a happy combination of romance and realism in a vein of gentle travesty.

THE MOSCOW ART THEATRE.

Interest in the Moscow Art Theatre having been revived by Sir Herbert Tree's allusion to it in his speech at the Actors' Association meeting on Tuesday, we print the description of the theatre given by Mr. Huntly Carter in his most interesting book, "The New Spirit in Art and Drama," recently published by Mr. Frank Palmer. Mr. Carter says:—

"The first time I was shown over the theatre the question naturally arose: How is the theatre physically equipped? The answer was brief. Beyond a complete and up-to-date electric-room, and the three principal features of the Deutsches Theatre, Berlin, the revolving stage, the round or concave horizon, and the new horizon lighting, it has but little of special interest. It is spacious throughout, and restful. Its foyer and corridors are spacious, and its general architectural features compare favourably with the best type of modern theatre. It has a very large stage—larger indeed than that of His Majesty's Theatre, London—provided with a revolving centre. In the evident desire, shown in the number and variety of electric appliances, to solve the problems of lighting by the application of the latest advances in electro technique, it passes at once from the conventional theatre to the laboratory. Perhaps here the problems of stage-lighting, seen in the attempt to obtain the effect of direct sunlight or diffused light, a truthful distribution of light and shadow, are nearest solution. From the physical I turned to the mental equipment of the theatre. How is the theatre mentally organised and equipped? With a rare union of the artistic and the practical, was the reply. Both the directors, managers, and every member of the staff appear to be liberally endowed with taste, judgment, patience, and perseverance. The decorators and electricians understand the laws of the stage and the demands of the scenic materials. Even the wigmaker and costumier are artists, unlike the London samples, who are merely tradesmen.

"The efficiency, thoroughness, aims, and methods of the heads of the departments were such as to recall those of the principals of a well-organised university, which for the purpose of examination might be divided into three main parts—the head, body, and members. They are seen to be the direct outcome of a culture organisation, consisting of directors, stage-managers, electricians, actors, extras, and general staff, whose chief aim is to promote the culture of theatre work and to produce the all-round practical artiste, the highest type of which being the ideal director who has gone through every department, excepting, perhaps, that of the poet and painter. Given a combination of heads of departments of the sort, and the impossible may be achieved. This was what the able secretary, M. Lykiardopoulos, led me to believe when he pointed to the amazing results arising from the constant study of technique in this laboratory of technical ideas. He reminded me that 'The Blue Bird' had taken two years to produce, and 'Hamlet' had occupied no less than three years, during which time there had been a constant and patient research into natural and symbolic effects, a thorough testing and rejecting of every known idea and method, and the inventing of others till those are found according to the conception of a unified and harmonious production. In this way the 'Hamlet' ideas of Mr. Gordon Craig had been materialised. It seems that Mr. Craig has been accustomed to send his ideas along, and the management has taken them and patiently and persistently given them effect. The extreme difficulty of the undertaking will be fully understood by those who know the indefinite character of Mr. Craig's ideas as expressed, say, in his designs for stage costumes. Such designs are the despair of the well-meaning wardrobe mistress.

The System of Training.

"It did not require a deep penetration to see that the company trained under this theatre-university system has also the artistic and practical character. Indeed, the system has bred in it an extraordinary love of the theatre and drama. To its members the theatre is a centre affording facilities for probing the most intimate secrets of the dramatic form of art. They live, work, and play in the theatre. To them the theatre is a sort of preparatory school, where they study during the day and play principal parts or walk-on at night. They may be divided into head pupils, secondary pupils, and probationers—those waiting to be admitted. They are always in the theatre, and attend every rehearsal, watching and learning. They are taught the essentials of acting and speaking, and are trained in the movements of the Jaques-Dalcroze system of dancing. They adopt the round-table method of studying a play and learning their parts, and thus come together in conference, as it were, for the purpose of analysing and assimilating the part and the whole. How different this is from the London system, according to which to the English actor the theatre only spells treasury! He is forbidden the theatre except at special moments. As a rule he is rigorously kept out of the auditorium and sometimes off the stage while rehearsals are on, and is given a detached fragment of the play to study, which he must learn either at home, when the missus is shopping and the 'kids are abed,' or during rehearsals, balanced on one leg supporting the scenery, or in the nearest pot-shop over a convivial beer in pewter. Ask a London actor for particulars of the play in which he is appearing, and he will invariably tell you he knows nothing about it, except what is contained in his own 'bit.' He is 'called' for the act or acts in which he appears, and is not expected to turn up on any other occasion. In consequence, he knows less about a whole of which he is supposed to be a unified and harmonious part than the spectator. In Moscow the actors are artistes who passionately love their form of art, and together they form an efficiently organised company, each member of which is fully acquainted with the traditions of the theatre, and fully prepared to form any part of a harmonious whole. They embody efficiency and uniformity in the highest degree.

"It was watching the rehearsals of Shakespeare's 'Hamlet' and of Tolstoy's latest play, 'A Living Corpse'—another but not very original shot at the fallacies of the marriage-tie—that led me to the consideration of the plays which the Moscow Theatre produces, and the methods of producing them and the manner of performing them. A glance at the long list of authors revealed that, as I have already mentioned, three classes of plays are treated—the realistic, the romantic, and the symbolic. Though the method of presentation varies according to the essential character of each play, the method of production is mainly on one line—the analytico-psychological. The theatre was, in fact, intended as a psychological theatre, to give on the one hand a natural, and on the other hand a symbolic, expression of the psychology of each play. Accordingly the scenes are either minutely analysed, just as a body is dissected out, but all the parts kept together, or they are symbolised, as in 'The Blue Bird.' The setting follows the same method, expressing as faithfully as possible the realistic or symbolic character of the scenes. If the former, it preserves the principles of simplification while presenting a synthesis of that which is being analysed. By this means the immobility or actionless character of the Tchekoff type of play is repeated in the background, which remains static instead of being dynamic, and synthesises the whole of the fragments or parts of which the scene is composed. The 'scene' is unified and harmonised realistically by colour, line, and lighting, symbolically by perspective and lighting. The acting is on similar lines. Just as each scene, each effect, is the result of long and patient research and unity of conception, so each part is built up by careful study. Its individual character is sought and found and given proper proportion and relation to other parts, just as each gesture, each nuance, is brought into relation to the whole expression. The smallest innovation is submitted to experiment and accepted or rejected accordingly.

"It was while sampling the excellent lunch that the management provides for its company, including the extra people, during rehearsals, that I arrived at the question of economics. How are the actors paid? How treated? What advantages do they derive from the co-operative or profit-sharing system of the theatre? Without going into figures, it may be said they receive adequate remuneration. Even the 'walks-on' are paid a living wage. The eighteen-shilling-a-week-find-all-your-own-fashionable-modern-wardrobe-extra-people are unknown. Furthermore they are paid for rehearsals and fed during rehearsals. There are no long periods of semi-starvation and walking home at daybreak after fifteen hours' wearisome rehearsal, as in London where professionals rehearse sometimes nine and ten weeks at a time without payment of any sort. Show me the British workman who would work strenuously nine weeks for nothing. The members of the Moscow Theatre enjoy the further advantage of a profit-sharing system. They start as students, and, having graduated, they are allotted a certain number of shares in the theatre, and so acquire a vested interest in it. In this way they are much nearer to an Actors' Union than were Messrs. G. B. Shaw and Granville Barker when they tried to reconstruct the Actors' Association and succeeded in wrecking it.

Its Results.

"That the general position of the Moscow Art Theatre and the results from the system of organisation are satisfactory is beyond question. The theatre is financially supported, and has been from the start, by a number of public-spirited citizens. It is in the hands of shareholders, and its financial affairs are administered by a board of directors. The capital is vested in a stock company comprised of business men. But these shareholders are not merely business men—they are enthusiasts, like the millionaires who founded the New Theatre. They are not out for profit, they do not look for an immediate financial return for their money so much as for the artistic prosperity of the theatre, being largely guided in this by the prevailing nationalistic feeling. The efficient handling of the theatre is beginning to tell. It is now a paying concern, and this without puffs of any sort. It attracts large audiences, and influences them. Moreover, the management proposes to build a new theatre at a cost of £100,000. Such a proposal coming from a theatre devoted to art is sufficient to convert even the most cast-iron Philistine to the view that there is money in artistic ideals. Some day, when the Moscow Theatre company has concluded its forthcoming European tour, this truth will dawn upon commercial-minded enthusiasts, who will then cease to subsidise the purely commercial theatre, and will support the art theatre instead. Perhaps they may be led to study the admirable system of theatre organisation upon which the Moscow Art Theatre is based. And, if so, they will discover that that system is one of the best:—

"(1) For founding, developing, and directing an artistic theatre.

"(2) For the development and improvement of stagecraft and stage machinery.

"(3) For the production of the efficient director, managers, decorators, and mechanics.

"(4) For the training of the actor.

"(5) For artistic and scientific experiments in light, sound, and movement.

In short, for obtaining the best means for the widest representation of the drama, and the best possible results from such a representation.

"There is also the inference from the organisation that the wrong people are being invited to patronise art and drama in England. Here both art, drama, and literature are under the direct control of academic minds, with the result that but little hope can be entertained of an advance being made in the desired direction. Neither art nor drama rises to new and higher things on ancient stepping-stones of their dead selves. It is a flagrant mistake to assume anything of the sort. I maintain that art and artistic drama lives in new forms alone, and such forms need new powers of vision, of interpretation, of appreciation. They need, indeed, the vision and interpretation of young, vigorous, and independent minds. These are what both art, drama, and the theatre need to-day. They need beyond this an entirely new type of patron, and till this patron comes forward the outlook for art and drama in this country will be anything but rosy. Personally, I would like to see an aristocratic form of patronage, such as existed during the Stuart dynasty and was so largely stimulated by the art-loving Stuart kings. But though I press for the patronage of an aristocracy of brains, I also press for money to accompany the brains. To-day, patrons with money and no brains are practically useless. The economic fallacies of the past generation or two have strengthened the general conviction that it is useless to have ideas without the money to carry them out. In an ideal State the conviction will doubtless be reverted to; it is useless to have money without the intelligence necessary to circulate it. By the time the latter conviction is reached, money will have ceased to circulate altogether."

MODERN THEATRE LIGHTING.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—*Re* your interesting article in last week's "Era" on the above, the Theatre Royal and the Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield, once adopted the system of throwing a strong limelight on the stage from the centre of the auditorium ceiling (mainly for ballet and other spectacular scenes). This was nearly forty years ago. After a two years' trial the practice was abandoned. The idea is all right for "special turns" in a variety theatre, but as applied for legitimate theatrical effect it is most inartistic. The stage part of a theatre should be perfectly distinct from the auditorium. A boy with his little model theatre has that instinct when he turns down the lights in the room and lights his small stage with candles.—Yours faithfully,

A LOVER OF THE THEATRE.

Herr Felix Weingartner, the composer, and ex-director of the Berlin Imperial Opera, has been married at New York to Mlle. Lucille Marcel, the Viennese prima donna, who scored a success in "Elektra."

When the extensions now in progress have been completed the stage of the New Rehearsal Theatre will be 20ft. deep by 24ft. wide, with an opening of 18ft. The new dressing-rooms will accommodate comfortably twenty-four artistes. Limes have also been put in.

This (Saturday) afternoon "The Son and Heir" at the Strand will be preceded by a one-act comedy entitled "An Interrupted Divorce," by Frederick Sargent, which was produced at the King's, Hammersmith, last September. The play will be enacted by Mr. Ernest Leicester, Mrs. Sam Sothern, and Mr. Lambert Plummer.

VARIETY GOSSIP

Mr. Joe Elvin, the president, will occupy the chair at the annual dinner and dance of the Music Hall Artistes' Railway Association at the Criterion Restaurant on Sunday, March 9. For this happy evening the price of tickets is only 6s., and no donations will be asked for. The tickets will be on sale on Monday next.

Miss Marie Lloyd received over 200 telegrams on her birthday, Wednesday, Feb. 12, and she wishes, through our columns, to express her sincerest thanks for the kind thoughts and heartfelt wishes of her many friends and admirers in all parts of the country.

Miss Marie Lloyd entertained a few friends at her new house, Oakdene, Golders Green, on Sunday last, prior to her tour in the provinces. Amongst the merry throng were Mr. and Mrs. Gus Elen, who, by the way, can rarely be persuaded to leave their home on Sundays, but this was a special occasion, and the evening was made up of rag-time and "lemonades." "Oh, what a night!" Everybody thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Marie, who is this week at the Empire, Nottingham (under the able management of Mr. Ernest Bridgen), received some appreciative verses from Gus Elen, who says many sweet things about a charming hostess, on behalf of "Joey and Gus," names by which the happy pair are known to their intimate friends.

Harry Houdini considers the Water Torture Cell the greatest feat he has ever attempted during his career, and he certainly ought to know. Fortunately, he has protected this new theatrical effect by making it a stage play, and thereby securing the Lord Chamberlain's licence. Houdini is locked into a narrow Water Torture Cell filled with water, and stands on his head, ankles clamped, and locked above in centre of massive cover. He escapes therefrom in this upside-down position. The sensation is fully protected, so, copyists, hands off!

Marie Loftus, who is the real thing in Scotch, has made an enormous success at the Pavilion, Glasgow. Her character study, "The wee wandered wane," evoked roars of laughter, and at the finish of her "Past and present" she had to stand to receive an ovation that has never been equalled in the annals of this house. Scotch comedy and refined burlesque such as Miss Loftus gives us would be welcome in town.

We learn with much regret, which we feel sure is shared by a large number of English and American performers, of the death of Mrs. Valentine Radford, who passed away at the Middlesex Hospital on Wednesday at 1.30 p.m., after a painful and lingering illness. The deceased lady was the partner as well as the wife of Mr. Harry Radford, the duo being known as Radford and Valentine, a very popular burlesque juggling turn. The deceased lady had been married for eleven years, and was only 33. The bereaved husband has received many messages of condolence. The deceased lady was born at Curzay, France. Her maiden name was Valentine Bouchière.

We regret to announce the death, on Tuesday, of Mr. Charles Henry Sheard, senior partner to the firm of Charles Sheard and Co., music publishers, 196, Shaftesbury-avenue, who passed away, after a long and painful illness, at 36, Norfolk-road, Seven Kings. The deceased gentleman was associated with his father for some years in Holborn, where the elder Sheard used to publish comic songs, song books, and more especially "The Musical Bouquet," which was the pioneer of cheap non-copyright sheet music. Mr. Charles Sheard's publications were largely original, and besides issuing the "hits" of many of our popular artistes, he did a considerable business in songs and other compositions of a higher type. He is to be buried on Monday at 12 o'clock at Highgate Cemetery.

The monthly meeting of the committee of the Music Hall Sick Fund was held on Wednesday at the Metropolitan Music Hall, Edgware-road, when there were present Messrs. W. Bailey (in the chair), W. J. Wainratta (vice-president), W. H. Handley, Arthur Gallimore, C. Harmon, and E. J. Tranchant (secretary). At the conclusion of the business, Mr. W. Bailey, the hon. treasurer, said he had a pleasing duty to perform, and that was to make a presentation to Mr. R. T. Baines, who had resigned the position of secretary of the society, owing to pressure of his ordinary work. Mr. Baines had occupied the post for about twelve years, and, in order to mark their appreciation of his services, a few of the members and others connected with the Fund had got up a little subscription. The appeal had been very readily responded to, and he had great pleasure in handing to Mr. Baines a set of gold sleeve-links and studs, and a silver-mounted umbrella. In addition to these articles Mr. Baines was also the recipient of a writing-desk.

Mr. Baines, in thanking the members for their kind and generous recognition of his services as secretary, said he was specially indebted to Mr. Bailey and Mr. Wainratta who, he understood, had been the prime movers in getting up the presentation. His associations in connection with the society had been very pleasant ones, and among the members he had made some very good friends. He wished every prosperity to the Fund in the future, and his successor being in close touch with the members of the profession would no doubt be able to increase the membership very considerably.

Mr. W. Buchanan Taylor writes in "The Sporting Life": "Mr. Neil Kenyon informs me that he has just received a very flattering offer from America. He has been asked to go to New York to play the leading part in a revue at the Winter Garden, which is run by the Schubert Brothers. The Winter Garden is probably the nearest approach in America to the Palace, London. Mr. Kenyon, who recently acquired two new Dunrobin sketches for himself, has already refused several big offers for the States, but he feels well disposed towards the latest offer, for two reasons—one that he has a great liking for the legitimate side of theatre work, and the other is that it is the biggest offer he ever had made him." Next week Mr. Kenyon goes once more to the London Pavilion.

Miss Edith Chantler, described as the "phenomenal girl vocalist," is a great favourite at the Surrey Theatre this week, rendering "Take me back to the garden of love" and "Yesterday" in splendid style. Possessed of a delightfully sweet soprano voice and a charming presence, Miss Chantler sings in captivating style, and the audience on Tuesday evening applauded both numbers to the echo. At the early age of 13 this young lady had the honour of singing before her Royal Highness Princess Louise, Duchess of Argyll, the famous song "Violets," and the appreciation of her efforts then is being repeated this week by the crowds which flock to this popular south side theatre. Miss Chantler is booked for the Moss and Stoll tours, starting the Moss tour in April, and we predict a successful career for the young vocalist.

John Lawson will reproduce "Humanity" at the Surrey Theatre on Monday, and we are not surprised to hear that bookings for the production are big. "Sally in Our Ally" will be seen at the Olympia, Shoreditch, on the same date, so John will be kept busy with five performances on Monday.

Miss Gertie Gitana, after breaking all records at the Empire, Birmingham, finished Saturday last to two packed houses at the Ardwick Empire, Manchester, and was presented by the Ardwick boys with a huge basket of flowers.

On March 10 Mr. Albert Hengler will produce at the Manchester Hippodrome the spectacular aquatic drama, "In the Balkans," written by Leonard F. Durell, which has proved such a phenomenal success during its three months' run in Glasgow.

Mr. Rowland Hill, who concludes this week a successful pantomime season at the Theatre Royal, Sheffield, is appearing next week at the local Hippodrome with new numbers from the pen of Mr. Tom B. Newsome. Mr. Hill has been re-engaged by Mr. John Hart to play Dame next Christmas at the Theatre Royal, Manchester.

On Tuesday next Messrs. Charlot and Leveaux propose to add to the cast of "Kill That Fly!" Miss Rene Parker, the latest rag-time specialist to be lured from New York for the delectation of Londoners. Miss Parker will not rely solely upon her songs and her own particular methods of rendition—she hopes, incidentally, to procure the admiration of her audience by an extensive and elaborate wardrobe.

Miss Florence Smithers is appearing this week at the Hippodrome, Eastbourne, with her company, in "Our Mary Jane," and is meeting with a most flattering reception nightly from many of her admirers, who remember her performance as Jane in "The Dandy Doctor" at the Pier Pavilion here some time ago. Miss Smithers is leaving for South Africa on March 1, and will be accompanied by her husband (Mr. Owen Dacroy) and company.

Although the run of the Russian ballet "Scheherazade," at the Coliseum is limited at present to four weeks, the enthusiasm of the audience at the dancing of Mr. Theodore Kosloff, Mlle. Baldina and their comrades, and the loud applause which testifies to the pleasure the ballet has given, furnish the strongest evidence that Mr. Stoll could retain this item in the programme for a much longer time with the undoubted approval of the public.

The death is announced of Mr. John Albert Brady, the husband of Marion Johnson and father of Albert Feline and Rose and Veronica Brady. The deceased gentleman was an Irish comedian, and with his wife he became very popular in the eighties. They were known as Brady and Johnson, and were among the most popular duologue artistes of their time. The interment took place yesterday in Norwood Cemetery.

Frank Tinney, the newly arrived humorist from the United States, whose restful method of provoking hearty laughter has already made him a great favourite with Palace audiences, is one of the chief features of the exceptionally fine programme that has been prepared for next week. Rarely in the history of the Palace has it happened that a stranger has so quickly caught the fancy of the patrons of this house, and Mr. Tinney's immediate success may be ascribed to the fact that he is delightfully funny in a new and pleasantly unobtrusive way.

Miss Marie Lloyd, to whom the music hall world and many friends outside it have been wishing many happy returns of Wednesday, the 12th, has been the subject of one of the "Celebrities in Glass Houses" articles in the "Winning Post." In his "anticipations of the past" the writer has completely ignored the fact that the future "Queen of comediennes" fulfilled a very early and, as it turned out, important engagement at the Sebright, Hackney-road, then bossed with much enterprise by Mr. George E. Belmont, who ran the house on the twice-nightly plan, or, as he used to term it, on the bifurcated principle.

Mr. Belmont writes: "I gave Miss Marie Lloyd no less than eight engagements at salaries ranging from 50s. to £50 per week. Early in 1886 she did a trial turn for me at the Sebright Music Hall, Hackney-road, and it was I who at the finish of her show introduced her and her mother to 'Dear Old George Ware,' who happened to be on a visit to me that evening, and who from that date for many years worked so loyally in securing contracts and writing her songs, including 'The boy I love is up in the gallery.'

Rag-time music, the craze of London variety entertainments, is to have its own review in an elaborate production due at the New Cross Empire on Monday. Miss Fern Andrée has come from Chicago to head a company of twenty-five singers and dancers, who will trace the evolution of the fascinating melodies which had their birth on the cotton plantations of the Southern States. The first scene of the rag-time review will show the negroes in the cotton field, and the second will depict a party singing as they float down the river in a canoe. Then comes a representation of a Chicago saloon, and finally the wild delights of rag-time and its dances are depicted in a New York cabaret. Miss Andrée, who is an exceptionally beautiful girl, defeated three hundred other ladies in a Chicago competition for dancing the "Grizzly bear" and the "Turkey trot," but we hope that such competitions will not reach this "happy land."

Much regret has been felt at the Ipswich Hippodrome, and in musical circles in the town, during the present week by the unexpected death of Mr. Leslie Lewis, the popular conductor of the orchestra. Mr. Lewis, although somewhat unwell, conducted as usual on Thursday night (the 6th), but on the Friday he was seriously ill with pleurisy, which rapidly developed, and he died on Saturday afternoon. Mr. Leslie Lewis was formerly conductor at the Hippodrome at Peterborough, removing to Ipswich in August last. He was highly appreciated in the town, and under his conductorship the band at the Hippodrome had attained a high standard.

Mr. Chas. Gulliver will produce at the Hippodrome, Willesden, next Monday, Mr. Herbert Shelley's romantic Irish drama, "Dan, the Outlaw," in which will be portrayed a stirring story of the Irish Rebellion of 1798. The piece will be presented in ten specially painted scenes and one tableau. Mr. John Beauchamp, so long connected with West-End productions, will play the part of a Dublin Watchman, and Herbert Shelley that of a Shepherd. An excellent company has been engaged, including Messrs. Charles A. White, Royce Milton, Harry D. Johnstone, Ernest Dunbar, Laurence Atkins, and the Misses Winnie Donovan, Rowena Moore, Kathleen Bryant, and Sophie Larkin.

Reynolds and Donegan play Moss Empire, Liverpool, next week with their decorative dancing act on rollers. This is the first engagement the team has played outside of London in four years. They return to the Victoria Palace the week of Feb. 24.

My Fancy has completed a most successful tour on the Harry Rickards circuit, now under the control of Mr. Hugh D. McIntosh, and sailed on the 14th (yesterday) for South Africa per s.s. Gothic to fulfil her contract on the Sydney Hyman tour.

Mr. and Mrs. W. J. D'Arc, of D'Arc's mimicking marionettes, who have been winning success all along the line in Australia, will arrive to-day per the Orontes at Tilbury Docks. They sailed from London on Aug. 2 last year, and open at Rotherham on March 3.

Carter Livesey, who was topping the bill at the Opera House and Empire, York, last week, had an enormous ovation, and also received a letter of congratulation on the excellence of his performance from Mr. Peacock, the proprietor, with a claim of option of his services for next year. Mr. Livesey is negotiating pantomime for this year and onwards.

The Five M.P.'s have been appearing at the King's Theatre, Ramsgate this week. Unlike many M.P.s we could name they were vastly entertaining. And they performed remarkable tricks. But, of course, some of the others at Westminster have been known to do that.

The name of Mr. Douglas Stuart was inadvertently omitted from the paragraphs giving particulars of the benefit matinée at the Borough Theatre, Stratford, on Feb. 6. Mr. Stuart acted as one of the hon. secs. of the matinée, and also secured the services of the extra turns.

O Hana San sails for Australia on the s.s. Malwa on March 7 to fulfil a special engagement with Hugh Macintosh, the proprietor of the Harry Rickards Theatres. The engagement was negotiated by the Marinelli Agency by cable, and it is said to be for the biggest salary ever received for an electrical novelty number.

Miss Millie Payne, who has been touring Moss's Empires as a star attraction with immense success since her return from South Africa, is this week back at the Hippodrome, Devonport, upholding her reputation. She returns for a London season commencing Monday next at the Empire, New Cross, and Olympia, Shoreditch. All her dates for the next six years have been fixed by her energetic husband and business-manager, Mr. H. Thurston.

The Brothers Shanks, who have just completed a record success at the Queen's Theatre, Dublin, in the pantomime, are producing for the first time next Monday at the Tivoli Theatre, Dublin, a new comedy sketch in two scenes, entitled "Midnight Sons," written by Mr. Guy Shanks. In this sketch the brothers will have the assistance of that well-known musical comedy actress, Miss Gertie De Vere. These clever acrobatic artistes have already travelled extensively in the East, where they return after next season's pantomime engagement, starting in America for a tour round the world.

Miss Florrie Gallimore paid her first visit last week to the Rhondda Fach, and enhanced her high reputation when she appeared at the New Theatre, Ferndale. On Saturday evening, in the presence of a "bumping" house, Miss Gallimore was the recipient of a beautiful bouquet, presented by Little Miss Rheda Williams, daughter of Mr. David Williams, the general-manager. Miss Gallimore, in coming forward to respond, was received enthusiastically. She thanked the people of Ferndale most sincerely for their appreciation. She thought she would not take, but their affectionate welcome had dissipated all her fears.

We regret to announce that Mr. Woody, of Woody and Well, has sustained a somewhat serious accident while performing in "The Perch Club." This new acrobatic comedy was produced under the auspices of Mr. Harry Tate, and achieved an instantaneous success at Watford, and proved equally attractive as Middlesbrough, where the mishap occurred. As a result, "The Perch Club" is not playing at Darlington this week. Mr. Woody, who is recuperating at Brighton, is making satisfactory progress, and "The Perch Club" will appear at the Palace Theatre, Doncaster, on Monday next.

Mr. T. Elder Hearn is drawing crowded houses to the Hammersmith Palace twice nightly this week by means of a novel scheme of advertisement. Having recently had some money left to him, he has decided to give away part of his salary to members of his audience in sums varying from 6d. to £1.

After his wonderful protean performance, "The Romance of a Studio," Mr. Hearn directs operations from the stage in this manner:—Four assistants—one each for gallery, pit, circle, and stalls—well armed with postal orders, start either from the back or front of their part of the house, according to Mr. Hearn's directions, and then, at intervals, Mr. Hearn says "All right, pit!" "All right, circle!" and so forth, and the assistant gives the next postal order in his bundle to the person he finds himself standing opposite when "the magic words" are uttered.

These were not the only people either who received postal orders at the first house on Monday. A soldier in the stalls was spotted by Mr. Hearn, a sailor in the pit, the popular musical conductor, Mr. J. Cleeve, a programme girl, "the lady in the red hat in the circle," the "handsomest" man in the stalls (our representative blushed, but did not stand up to compete), and the "gentleman using opera glasses," all participated in the seemingly unlimited stock of postal orders at Mr. Hearn's demand—to say nothing of the offer to the first gentleman espied in evening dress in the gallery.

The success of the experiment was evidenced by the crowded house at the first performance on Monday, and also by the fact that Mr. Hearn has lately beaten all records by the same means at Putney and Balham, and this he seems likely to do at Hammersmith.

An application for interdict by Mr. Graham Moffat was heard at the Sheriff Court, Paisley, on Wednesday, seeking to restrain Geo. H. Kemp, the Pavilion, Johnstone, from producing or allowing to be produced in his theatre or elsewhere a play or playlet advertised by defender as "The Hole in the Wall," which is really a playlet entitled "The Concealed Bed," the property of the pursuer.

Mr. Jeffrey Hunter, who appeared for the pursuer, stated that the playlet had been produced in Johnstone on Jan. 20, and he also held that it had been produced in Saltcoats and other places. Mr. Kemp, however, had called on him and expressed regret that, through inadvertence, a company engaged had produced it. He would see that it did not occur again. The Sheriff granted perpetual interdict, with expenses. "The Concealed Bed" is this week running at the Paisley Hippodrome.

FEDERATION AND FUNDS.

M.H.A.R.A.

Mr. Arthur Gallimore presided at the usual weekly meeting of the committee at the offices of the Association on Wednesday afternoon. There were also present Messrs. T. C. Callaghan, Chris Van Bern, Ken Gallimore, and Charles Coborn. The weekly financial statement showed forty-two new members and a cash total of £63 7s.

Music Hall Ladies' Guild.

Miss Melinda May, the secretary of the Guild, desires, on behalf of the Committee, to gratefully thank Mr. William Bailey (Metropolitan Music hall) for giving and collecting 5s., also three coal and three bread tickets; Mr. Cyrus Bell, donation, 5s.; Miss Marie Lloyd, twelve bread and eleven coal tickets; Mr. H. H. Johnson (per Mrs. Herbert Shelley), twelve girls' and six boys' new hats; Mrs. Lottie Albert, gents' clothing; Mrs. Gintaro, ladies' clothing, Miss Violet Folland, boots and clothing; Mrs. Martin Adeson and Mrs. Harry Vento, useful clothing; and Mrs. Ernest Collins, a guitar and case.

Owing to rumours which have been current the Committee of the Guild wish it to be understood that only the Secretary of that charitable organisation is in receipt of a salary. The committee not only pay their subscriptions and give their time, but also pay their own expenses incurred in investigating cases, selling tickets, or writing letters in connection with the above work of the Guild. On committee days they also pay for their own tea and that of any friends they invite, the profit of which goes to the funds.

When Miss Violet Folland, the fortunate winner of the Hackney Furnishing Company's £5 prize at the Guild Fancy Dress Ball, went to select her prize, so great was Mr. Stuart's admiration of the ingenuity of her costume (designed by Mr. Millar, and carried out by Messrs. H. and M. Rayne), that he immediately increased the amount of the prize. He therefore presented Miss Folland with a handsome roll top desk, which she very generously handed over to the Guild as a gift for their offices. The committee wish to return their sincere thanks to both Miss Folland and Mr. Stuart for their kindness.

Music Hall Home.

At a committee meeting of the Music Hall Home, held on Friday, Feb. 7, Mr. W. R. Dunkley in the chair, there were also present Messrs. Arthur Were, Tom Packer, C. Douglas Stuart, Douglas White, T. C. Callaghan, C. C. Cornish, Dan Robans, Ben Woodger, Harry Barnard, and J. Sparrow. An application for admission to the Home by two old performers (man and wife) was received; but as there is no accommodation for married couples at Gipsy Hill, Mr. Douglas Stuart, as secretary of the Variety Artistes' Benevolent Institution, kindly undertook to submit the application to his committee, married quarters being provided at Brinsworth.

The list of collectors and subscribers to Kitty Colyer's New Year's Appeal will shortly be published. Collectors who would like their names to appear in the first list are requested to return cards as soon as possible, with remittance. The next committee meeting will be held on Friday, Feb. 21, at 2.30 p.m.

Beneficent Order of Terriers.

The following candidates for membership of the Order have successfully passed the ballot: Tom E. Dean and Edgar Curtice. A first notice of application for membership has been received from Leslie Harris and Fred Zarinella.

At the meeting on Sunday last Terrier Harry Gribben acted as W.I., Terrier Julian Mack as W.D., and Terrier Lauri Hunter as Y.B. A hearty welcome was extended to Terriers Julian Mack, W. H. Atlas, Harry Huley, Ernest D'Almaine, Syd Crossley, Dick Bell, and Lauri Hunter upon their reappearance in the kennel. The meet will be suspended on March 9 on the occasion of the M.H.A.R.A. dinner. Representatives of the kindred societies will attend the Annual Terrier Dinner on Sunday, April 6, at Frascati's.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Terrier Albert Voyce on Sunday last for the able manner in which he has prepared the new ritual. The new badge of the Order is now in hand, and will be in the form of a small terrier in gold. Mr. Frederick Whitlow, the Australian humorist and society entertainer, a member of the Australian Terriers' Society of Sydney, was introduced to the meet and accorded the honour of an official welcome. In view of the fact that the society always gives English artistes, Terriers in particular, a cordial reception in Sydney, much enthusiasm was evinced.

Terrier J. Carr had a grand farewell at the Palace, Ramsay, and was presented by the staff with a handsome cigar case. Terrier Bruce Green is leaving Waterloo to-day, at 11 a.m., for South Africa, and will be pleased to see Terriers at the station. The Watch Dogs' meeting will be held on Friday next at two o'clock sharp. Important business.

The Dunedin Troupe, who sailed on the Baltic for New York Feb. 6, arrived yesterday (Friday).

Gene Greene, the rag-time king, was sent to Stratford Empire Thursday by Moss' Empires to deputise for Wilkie Bard for the balance of the week.

Birmingham will have another opportunity of seeing clever Irene Dillon next month, when she will appear at the local Empire with an entirely fresh budget of novelty numbers.

Master Sydney Ryland was called upon at short notice on Monday evening to get off quick to East Ham and deputise. His success was such that he was retained on the bill all the week.

Miss Mabel Mavis, the well-known novelty musician, is giving an audition at the Chandos Hall, Maiden-lane, at 11.30 on Monday next. Managers and agents are invited to see the act of this clever and versatile lady.

We are informed by "The Player" of New York that the late Mrs. James E. Donegan, whose remains were taken on board the Baltic on Thursday (6th) for shipment to New York, was a member of the Altair Chapter of the Eastern Star, the ladies' branch of the Masonic order.

Miss Belle Mora has been for some months now following the advice given to her by her numerous friends to come out "on her own," and do a single turn. At first she had misgivings, quite natural in one who had passed some years on the variety stage in "support" of a partner—her lamented husband, Dave Meier, but the public, appreciative of talent, and responsive to comedy, has given her such encouragement that she need have no anxiety as to future bookings, which are in the hands of Tom Claxton. Recently Belle has been entertaining at the London Opera House, where her Scotch comedy—racy of the soil, be it remembered, for she is a Glesca lassie—found much hearty appreciation. She was also a big success with Mr. Stoll at Manchester. Of course, her efforts are not restricted to Scotch, though her dancing is *reel* eccentric. She has English numbers, the rendering of which assists her popularity. She goes to South Africa on the 22nd with the Sydney Hyman company, and is booked ahead on the Syndicate halls up till 1916 and on the Moss and other tours.

ACTS, ARTISTES, AND AGENTS.

Congratulations to that genial hustler and enterpriser, H. B. Marinelli, on the birth of a son, the happy event occurring in Paris.

The Manchester Entertainments' Bureau has been converted into a limited liability company, with registered offices at 296, Oxford-road, Manchester. Mr. H. G. Fitzgibbon is the managing-director, and the company have secured the services of Mr. G. Edward Hall as general manager and secretary.

Mr. Hall has had 25 years' experience of the theatrical and variety professions, under the management of Mr. George Edwardes, the late Mr. D'Oyly Carte, the late Edmund Tearle, etc., and is a well-known producer, both for professional companies and amateur societies.

The objects of the bureau are numerous, and the scope of its activities wide and varied. Primarily, Mr. Hall will make it his aim to bring together the variety manager and the high-class artiste, and no act will be recommended to a proprietor that has not been personally seen and approved by him. Another departure is the personal booming, not only through the Press, but by a member of the bureau staff of each big act. It is a recognised fact that many a good act has suffered through being inadequately described, and this will be obviated by the despatch of experienced advance representatives to the town where the initial performances take place.

The Maples and Hill and Ackerman sailed by the R.M.S. Saxon last Saturday to fulfil engagements on the Africa's Amalgamated Circuit, and this Saturday Mr. Rufe Naylor will despatch Brull and Hemsley and the Pimani Troupe.

Miss Gipsy Woolf and her troupe of clever girls have been booked for a tour of Africa's Amalgamated Theatres, and will leave for the land of sunshine early in April, returning to open on the Moss Tour in September.

So successful has Mark Anton been in Africa that his contract has been extended for twelve weeks, and he has "topped" at every theatre since his first week.

Bruce Green, who has been booked through the Will Collins Agency, is sailing to-day by the Kinfauns Castle for the Grand Theatres Circuit, South Africa.

Jerome Rosenburg, a well-known New York booking agent, during the recent proceedings brought by the Commissioner of Licences, admitted that he had been conducting a booking agency without the licence which the New York Employment Agency Law requires. He was fined 25 dollars.

Mr. Jack Goodson, so deservedly popular in the Variety world, has now severed his connection with the well-known agent, Mr. B. Sherek. Jack has established himself for the conduct of vaudeville business at 16, Green-street, W.C.

Mr. Martin Kamp, the Anglo-Dutch entertainer of whom "The Era" spoke so highly when he first appeared in this country, has been secured by most of the principal circuits through the agency of Julian Wylie.

Harry Marlow, a new light comedian, who played with such success at the Chelsea Palace and Collins's last week, has been booked almost solid by Mr. Julian Wylie for many years to come. Mr. Wylie was also the agent who brought "The Silver Hat" to London last week, when this act "made good" at the Clapham Grand.

Cliff Ryland on Monday received a wire from Variety Theatres Controlling Company at 1.40 p.m. to hurry off to Leeds. The taxi he picked up ran out of petrol on the way, but he reached King's Cross in time for the 2.20, and arrived at Leeds at 7.15. He was on the stage of the Hippodrome at 7.45, and "went big." He was also highly complimented by Manager Brown. Not so bad for a two-year-old!

Have the Palladium Minstrels been a success? This can be answered by the fact that over a quarter of a million have visited the show since it has been running, and that Mr. Gulliver has booked them to return immediately after the fulfilment of their bookings in the North, which includes the Moss, as well as the Stoll tours.

Mr. J. Melville Gillies, late musical-director of the Palace, East Ham, E., was on Friday last presented with a handsome testimonial and silver cigarette case from the members of the orchestra at East Ham on his retirement. This act of kindness shows the good feeling existing between the musicians and their conductor, which goes a long way towards the success of the performance and the comfort of the artistes.

Audiences at the Surrey on Monday afternoon are getting a name for rowdiness, and the attitude of some of the malcontents last Monday, who were evidently desirous of expressing their disappointment at the non-appearance of Miss Kate Carney, must have been exceedingly trying to the artistes engaged. There was no distinction made, everyone who appeared on the stage being baited more or less. Under such unfavourable conditions, it was impossible for the turns to do themselves justice. But surely the management should be able to abolish such a state of things, and protect performers from insult and contumely.

The popularity of the Achmed-Ibrahim Troupe of Arabs is being renewed this week at the Oxford, where their marvellous somersaults and pyramid building are applauded to the echo. The way in which stalwart men hurl themselves into the air, and after turning heels over head come down as lightly as cats on their hands, is quite sensational. The sight of a portly gentleman indulging in "flip-flaps" and other athletic exercises is not the least enjoyable item of the entertainment, and the house demonstrates its approval in many hearty recalls.

Miss Ella Erskine will appear at the Tottenham Palace on Monday in an intense Grand Guignolesque sketch, entitled "The Tigress," specially written for her by the well-known author and journalist, Mr. Cecil Howard-Turner. The action of the play takes place in a low cabaret, the resort of the underworld of Barcelona. In this picturesque setting Miss Erskine will play the part of Lola, a Spanish dancing girl known to the habitués as the Tigress. It is interesting to recall, by the way, that Miss Erskine is directly descended from Philip II. of Spain, and the part is one which gives full opportunity for the display of her powers as an emotional actress. This engagement constitutes Miss Erskine's début in variety theatres with her own company. She will be supported by Miss Rita Denison and Mr. Noel Phelps, a grand-nephew of the great Shakespearean actor of Sadler's Wells fame. The incidental music has been composed by Mr. Christopher Wilson, and the dance arranged by Miss Katti Lanner. Special scenery by J. T. Bull, and costumes designed by Sheridan House, will go to complete a striking mise-en-scène. The production is in the able hands of Miss Rosina Filippi.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

We are just on the verge of witnessing the closing scenes in what has proved to be a season of the most extraordinary triumphs—we refer to the success of rag-time in panto. There were some who thought that the innovation was fraught with danger, holding, as these people did, that the ingredients which went to the building up of a pantomime were so hoary, if not, indeed, sacrosanct, that it would be a species of vandalism to attempt interference with, or substitution for, them. But the rag-time wizard, Mr. Bert Feldman, knew better. He was highly optimistic from the start that syncopation would be the saviour of panto., that the latter form of theatrical fare had in recent years been lacking in the crispness and snap and "ginger" that the introduction of rag-time would impart to it, and his optimism became so infectious, his hypnotic influence so powerful, that all at once there was an unprecedented wish for Feldman published songs for exploitation in pantomime. Managers and artistes all fell under the sway of the rag-time king, syncopation formed the staple stuffing of every production in the three kingdoms, and the result has proved to clearest demonstration that the "stuffing" in this case was relished more than the goose—a circumstance which often finds realisation in the gastronomic world.

Pantomime—rag-time pantomime is the proper appellation on this occasion—will in a few days be bidding farewell to the hundreds of thousands of admirers who have been delighted for a spell with the appetising fare presented for their delectation, and we can imagine that, as the curtain falls to the strains of "Everybody's doing it," there will be many a tear-dimmed eyes in the throngs that slowly file through the exits to the outer world—throngs thought-saddened by the fact that they will not, for some time at least, hear their beloved songs rendered by their panto. favourites.

Under the circumstances it will be interesting to close an epoch-making season with a brief review of what the house of Feldman has accomplished in the short space of a few months. Despite the croakings and carpings of pessimistic critics, Mr. Bert Feldman a year ago saw the great possibilities that presented themselves of the introduction of syncopated melody to these countries. He secured all the gems of this kind to be had in America, he got the sole rights of publication, the Arthur-street printing presses were speedily throbbing in the work of production, and in a short space the public response became immense; while quite recently the volume of trade flowed in such a torrential manner that Mr. Bert Feldman had to ask the trade to cry "Halt!" for a week, so as to give his house a chance of coping with the congestion of orders. That is one side of the picture. On the other, we find managers wearing smiles that would not come off because their treasuries were bursting to repletion; artistes were climbing up the ladder of fame at a prodigiously fast rate—in this case a ladder with golden rungs—and the public were laughing (as they had never laughed before) at the haunting melody, the peculiar rhythm, and the sense-gripping charm possessed by syncopation.

The enumeration of such Feldman gems as "Alexander's rag-time band," "Everybody's doing it," "I want to be in Dixie,' "Oh! you beautiful doll," "The rag-time violin," "Who were you with last night?" "The mysterious rag," "The Gaby glide," and "Take me back to the garden of love," will be sufficient to indicate what the Arthur-street house has done in ministering to the people's amusement. For never were there such popular songs published as the galaxy of gems here enumerated, never were there such successes recorded in the whole annals of pantomime vocalisation, never has a musical publishing firm had such a record of triumphs to be placed to its credit in a lifetime as the Feldman house has accomplished during the past twelve months.

Rag-time, therefore, has had an unprecedented innings in 1912; will it still remain good cricket during 1913? Well, there is no reason why it should not; and present appearances even point to the craze becoming universal. The three kingdoms have made Feldman and rag-time their idols, and now comes the intelligence that "Gay Paree" has been smitten by the charms of syncopation as set forth by the Arthur-street house. Here is what the Paris correspondent of the "Daily News and Leader" says of the invasion of the gay capital:—

"It is heard everywhere now in Paris. At all the favourite tea rendezvous—the Elysee Palace, the Carlton, at the Pavilion Bleu at St. Cloud—at all the cafés where there is a band, in the last 'Revue' at the Olympia Music Hall, wherever one goes, in fact, there are sure to be found the strains of this music. It is quite a sight to see the fiddlers frowning in the attempt to master the weird and subtle syncopations. Rag-time is a different thing in the hands of a café orchestra from what it is in London, but it is still rag-time. There is no difficulty in recognising 'Everybody's doing it,' 'Oh! you beautiful doll,' 'Ragging the baby to sleep,' and all the rest. 'There's a girl in Havana' is another great favourite, but they all 'go down' very well; they all induce the same tapping of feet and wagging of heads that they produced in London and in the country of their birth."

And those who are familiar with the paragraphs in this page of "The Era" from week to week must be well aware that the songs here mentioned are diamonds from the Feldman mine. Thus not alone has the Rag-time King made conquest of the British Isles in this connection, but he has swept our Gallic brothers and sisters into the same net—another rivet in the chain links wherewith to bind more firmly together the members of the Entente Cordiale. For what Paris fondles this week all France will be cuddling the week after!

Again, news to hand from South Africa and the Southern Cross recounts the sensational success of syncopation in these Colonies, and how the Feldman publications have taken the Colonials by storm. In Miss Williamson's production no fewer than five numbers are huge successes—namely, "Alexander's Rag-Time Band," "Everybody's doing it," "Rag-time violin," "Oh, you beautiful doll," and "That mysterious rag." Mr. Jacques Jacobs' celebrated Trocadero orchestra in South Africa has created a sensation, and his entire répertoire of popular music is culled from the catalogue of Feldman. Already the advance orders, colossal as they were, are being added to by cable—another instance of the striking vogue for rag-time all over the world. We believe that vogue will remain for a long time. Mr. Feldman has his finger-tips on the pulse of the world; and just as soon as a revulsion of public feeling in matters musical is likely to take place he will anticipate the change. Therefore, we would say to managers and artistes, "Be guided absolutely in the months to come by Feldman, the genius of the song world. He will do the right thing at the right moment; he has too much at stake to imperil a world-wide reputation."

Miss Gertrude Lester sailed for South Africa last Saturday, and on her tour will exclusively feature Feldman's songs. It will be remembered that Miss Lester has played with Mr. George Edwardes in his various musical plays, and scored a tremendous success as the Merry Widow. She has recently been appearing in variety theatres, and she appreciates the great assistance the house of Feldman has given her in the preparation of her répertoire. Perhaps the song in which she has achieved her greatest success is that of "Oh, you beautiful doll!" a sure fame-winner to those who are properly equipped for its effective rendition.

"The star that never fails to shine," Miss Gertie Gitana, and who now exclusively sings Feldman's publications, has had a whole batch of new songs from the Arthur-street house. Messrs. Feldman have been very fortunate in inducing Miss Gitana to allow a selected few to sing her famous ballad, "Yesterday you called me sweetheart," so that artistes anxious to secure this gracious boon should communicate with Miss Gitana at once.

Mr. Fred Barnes, who has made such a tremendous "hit" in the Glasgow Theatre Royal pantomime, and whose services have been secured by Messrs. Howard and Wyndham for next season, will shortly resume his music-hall engagements, when, as in pantomime, he will exclusively sing songs fresh from the Feldman press. The rise of Mr. Barnes to that of a top-liner in his profession has been exceptionally expeditious, and none will say that he is not entitled to his present position, as all who know him are bound to acknowledge that a more intelligent and earnest performer than Mr. Fred Barnes does not exist in the music-hall world to-day.

Mr. Fred Elliston's production of "Puss in Boots" terminated a most successful season at Burnley last Saturday, and the principal girl, Miss Molly McCarthy, was the recipient of congratulations galore. This lady's tour has furnished a sequence of conquests; and for her rendition of "I want to be in Dixie" and "It's a long, long way to Tipperary" she has nightly had to respond to recall after recall. Miss McCarthy will soon resume her many music-hall engagements, and she has in active study several of Feldman's novelties.

The programme of the Olympia, Shoreditch, this week is brimful of good things. The "ideal of ideals," Miss Ella Shields, is the principal attraction, and her success with the fine Feldman number, "That old waltz tune," is as great as ever. The refrain is taken up with great gusto by the audience, who evidently appreciate both song and singer very much.

The variety stage is at the present moment being flooded with acts of every shape and form whose metre is rag-time. The popular craze for this style of composition is such that all are received with more or less favour. The Six Ragtime Buster Browns appearing at the Olympia this week are a party of bright and enthusiastic youths whose venture meets with some measure of success. Of course, their répertoire consists largely of Feldman publications, and their meritorious rendering of "That mysterious rag" is deserving of special mention.

The Eight 'Varsity Girls are a merry crowd of young ladies also appearing at the Shoreditch Olympia this week. They succeed well in their task of entertaining, and meet with much appreciation. Among the Feldman numbers used by them may be mentioned "Temptation rag," the popularity of which obviates the necessity of further comment.

An act meeting with the success it deserves is that provided by Fields and Fields, who are this week at St. Helens. Character delineations are their speciality, and a feature is being made by them of "Pick, pick, pick on your mandolin, Antonio," an Italian number published by Messrs. Feldman and Co.

The Lyceum pantomime, "Forty Thieves," terminates its successful run this week. This year's production has been in every way worthy of the traditions of both house and producers. An important part was played in this, as in almost every production throughout the country, by Messrs. Feldman's popular songs. The principal boy, Miss Daisy James, sings with immense success "I want to be in Dixie," "Who were you with last night?" and "That mysterious rag." Miss Daisy James intends to open at the Palladium next week with the song with which she is making such a big success at the Lyceum Theatre, namely, "I want to be in Dixie." Miss Ida Barr, as captain of the Forty Thieves, makes a hit with "Oh, you beautiful doll," while little Alexandra the Great, a favourite here, sings "The rag-time jockey" with pleasing results.

The denizens of Shepherd's Bush are this week basking in the sunshine of Miss Jen Latona's cheery performance. Her success with her répertoire of Feldman's songs continues unabated. "I want to be in Dixie," the popular hit of the moment, followed by the contagious lilt, "Rum-tum-tiddle," are both rendered in Miss Latona's inimitable style. She, however, excels in her interpretation of the clever light comedy number, "Blowed if the fellows can do without the girls."

Tucker, the singing violinist, is this week at the Manchester Palace repeating previous triumphs. His clever and unique act finds favour immediately. His choice of material assists greatly in bringing about this state of affairs. This consists largely of Feldman productions, among which may be mentioned "The Gaby glide," "I want to be in Dixie," and "That mysterious rag."

After a most successful time in pantomime at Brighton, the versatile Harry Marlow made a big hit at Chelsea and Collins's last week with "The Insurance Act," a comedy chorus song written and composed by himself. This number, which promises to achieve a tremendous vogue, is published by Messrs. Feldman and Co.

The irrepressible pair, Damerell and Rutland, wire from Glasgow that their success in pantomime with "Follow your leader, follow on," is exceeding all bounds. This fine comedy chorus number has been a mascot to this duo, and its continued vitality is simply amazing.

A delightful comedienne in the person of Miss Ethel Hall is meeting with great success at the Hammersmith Palace this week. She is singing two new Feldman numbers, entitled "On the Mississippi," and "No more knocking at the door," of which more will be heard anon.

At the same house the Zylbastrian Band, introducing two harps, 'cello, violin, basopheon, and the largest zylbastrian in the world, are playing a selection of the most popular Feldman numbers, such as "Alexander's rag-time band," "Everybody's doing it," "I want to be in Dixie," "Oh! you beautiful doll," "The Gaby Glide," "Rum-tum-tiddle," "The rag-time violin," and "That mysterious rag."

The clever American comedienne, Miss Beth Tate, is at present fulfilling a most successful engagement at the London Pavilion. She is featuring a new Feldman number, entitled "Dear old Winter-time," which promises to become very popular.

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"ROSALIND" AT THE COLISEUM

Comedy, in One Act, by J. M. Barrie, Produced for the First Time in Variety at the Coliseum on Monday, Feb. 10.

Mrs. Page ..... Miss Irene Vanbrugh
Charles ..... Mr. Donald Calthrop
Mrs. Quickly ..... Miss Dora Sevening

"Rosalind" is dainty as the filmiest lace, as sweet as lavender, and as tender as the dawn of a May morning; and its precious qualities once again held captive two large houses at the Coliseum on Monday, on the occasion of the début of Mr. Barrie's play in variety. It was produced last year as the third and only successful item in the triple bill tried at the house opposite—the Duke of York's—as an experiment by Mr. Charles Frohman, who must have been grievously disappointed with the failure of Pinero and Shaw, who were so insufferably dull in "Overruled" and "The Widow of Wasdale Head."

But these details are written down already by theatrical chroniclers. What is more to the point is to proclaim the fact that "Rosalind" repeated, at the Coliseum, its theatrical success—only more so. The play had the immense advantage of Miss Irene Vanbrugh's reappearance on the variety stage in the title character—an impersonation that will always be included among the chief triumphs of her distinguished career. She passes from playful banter to deep feeling, and later to arch coquetry, and in all moods she shows the gifts of a great comedienne. Mr. Donald Calthrop as the lover—devoted and adoring—plays with great tenderness and manliness. He, too, has gifts that should make for him a position in the profession. Miss Dora Sevening as the landlady, Mrs. Quickly, is kindly and comely. The audience on Monday afternoon were as enthusiastic as they were delighted at the fragrant sentiment and bright comedy of the play.

THE ALHAMBRA.

Miss Charlotte Parry, whom we saw last year at the Hippodrome in a protean playlet, "Into the Light," is holding audiences at the Alhambra with a petite drama of criminality, called "The Comstock Mystery." After all, there is nothing so very mysterious about the murder of Mr. Comstock, a young libertine of New York. He heaped scorn and ridicule on the girl he had wronged when she brought him the helpless babe and asked him to keep his promise and marry her. Stung to ungovernable anger, she shot him.

Things are complicated by the discovery in a handy wardrobe of a defiant demi-mondaine—just calling on Comstock as the fatal shot was fired—and by the confession of the crippled brother of the murderess, who takes on his humped shoulders the onus of the crime. Naturally, the girl who has avenged her wrongs will not allow such a sacrifice to be made, and gives herself up. The other characters, who include an American child, are types specially indigenous to New York; but the real humanity of the thing is restricted to the three persons we have referred to in our slight outline of the story, viz., the New York demi-mondaine, the girl who fired the fatal shot, and the heroic cripple.

The actress on Monday showed wonderful versatility in the characters of the old housekeeper, the gum-chewing Bowery girl, and the precocious youngster; but she got at our hearts as the grief-stricken and contrite one, who has found too late that men betray, and gives way to the promptings of revenge. There is pathos in every word uttered; and the crippled boy, as acted by Miss Parry, reminds the old playgoer of Jenny Lee's Jo, and there could be no higher praise. "The Comstock Mystery" should certainly be seen, not because of its quick changes, but because of the genuine pleasure to be found in the acting of a gifted woman. The gentleman who depicts the New York detective plays remarkably well.

Many of the sporting and fashionable celebrities who annually attend Ascot races are to be noted from night to night at the Alhambra, obviously enjoying the sayings and doings of their counterfeit presentments in the new scene of the revue, "Kill That Fly!" which is brighter and more beautiful than ever. The parterre has, in fact, assumed the style and quality of the famous Royal Enclosure, since Mr. George Grossmith introduced this rollicking racecourse episode, which, with characteristic humour, he describes as "Ascot's Ups and Downs." The Two Vivians, rifle and revolver shots, score a success in their astounding show; and the Two Anartos are amusing, but would be more so with more happily selected and less laboured gags.

"THE GIPSY SHOWGIRL."

Travis and Deane (Miss Marjory Deane) presented the above attractive item at the Camberwell Palace on Monday last. It is a ventriloquial sketch, in which is included some clever mimicry. A gipsy showman and a girl are travelling for the benefit of their pockets and for the amusement of the public at large. They have had a bad day, and, as a last resource, try their performance in front of a country inn. This proceeding gives the necessary opportunities for comedy. Many amusing figures are presented and much that is original in the way of conversation is introduced, the talents of the performers being conspicuous. This novelty act proves a huge success.

"TANTALISING TERPSICHORE."

A Dancing Episode, by E. and H. Gordon Clifford, Produced at the Camberwell Empire, on Monday, Feb. 10.

Timothy .....Mr. Sid Cotterell
Ronald .....Mr. F. Owen Stirling
Terpsichore .....Miss Violet Hope

Mr. Sid Cotterell has secured in the above a tit-bit both amusing and full of interest. Ronald is a law student who is tired to death of his dry-as-dust studies. He sighs for freedom, and what is more, for the sound of a female's voice. So long has he confined his attention solely to his musty books that he has now grown quite morbid, and in every way frightfully discontented. He wishes a female would come to him and break the monotony, and lo and behold, one does appear. This is Terpsichore, the Goddess of Dancing. He falls in love with her, and many amusing situations result when he is discovered by his servant, Timothy. The dialogue is amusing, and the dancing introduced by Miss Violet Hope is neatly and cleverly accomplished. Mr. F. Owen Stirling very suitably portrays the rôle of Ronald, and Mr. Sid Cotterell does not fail to make use of every opportunity where he can raise a hearty laugh.

A fire broke out at the Teddington Picture Palace in High-street on Monday evening. The film in the projector caught alight, but, with the patent apparatus, only a small length caught fire, and the people in the auditorium were not aware of the mishap until the manager apologised for the brief delay. A cloud of smoke, however, burst through the windows of the operating chamber and attracted a crowd outside the building.

The Stoll Suburban Houses.—The American Ragtime Octette, T. E. Dunville and Chanti, are the principals at Hackney Empire next week; the Schwartz Brothers and the Eight Elliott Savonas at the Shepherd's Bush Empire; C. Aubrey Smith and Lilian Braithwaite in "Instinct" at Chiswick Empire; and Marie Studholme in "Her Ladyship" and Fregolia at the Wood Green Empire.

"IN THE GRAY OF THE DAWN."

Sketch, by Mary Asquith and David Higgins, Produced at the Chelsea Palace, Monday, Feb. 10.

Jim Nolan ..... Mr. Walter Gay
Terry Sullivan ..... Mr. Lionel D'Aragon
Steve Henessy ..... Mr. Cecil Morton York
Dave Morgan ..... Mr. William Dunlop
Bill ..... Mr. Arthur Byron
Reliable Jake ..... Mr. Charles Ashby
Molly Dowd ..... Miss Lilian French
Freda Ducommon ..... Miss Rose Morison
Two-Step Liz ..... Miss Doris Watson
Her Pard ..... Mr. Johnny Watson
Jessie Cassidy ..... Miss Maud Stuart
Kate Kerrigan ..... Miss Jessie Millward

Miss Jessie Millward, the popular and accomplished actress, was given a very gratifying reception on her reappearance on the London stage on Monday evening at the Chelsea Palace, in the American dramatic sketch, "In the Gray of the Dawn." Written by Mary Asquith and David Higgins, and described as "a gripping story of the New York underworld," the playlet contains many sensational incidents, and is played with tension. There is little doubt of its popularity, for it makes an irresistible appeal to human nature, and compels the interest of the audience from the rise to the fall of the curtain. Indeed, we have seldom heard more enthusiasm displayed at the termination of a sketch, the entire company receiving several calls. The curtain rises upon a scene in a back room at Nolan's night saloon in New York in early morning, with grey dawn breaking through the soiled curtains. Two-Step Liz and her "pard" are indulging in the "Turkey trot," whilst other habitués of the bar-room are drinking, &c. At the conclusion of the dance, Bill, the bar-tender, is preparing to close the house, when Kate Kerrigan enters in quest of Terry, whom she loves. She has always been his partner in his burglaries, and his long absence causes her great anxiety. Bill being unable to give her any information, she appeals to his master Nolan, who arrives. He tells her that Terry is false to her and is in love with Jenny Cassidy. He declares his own love for her, and urges her to give up her association with Terry. This she refuses to do, and also declines Nolan's offer of marriage. Nolan leaves her and Terry rushes in wounded on the wrist and very agitated. He tells Kate that he has murdered a man. Kate is warned by Bill (the bar-tender) that the detectives are outside, and hides Terry in a panel in the wall. The detectives enter, and in order to induce her to betray Terry, Henessy (the police agent) informs her of Terry's liaison with Jenny Cassidy. Her jealousy is aroused, and she becomes nervous as the sleuthhound wanders round the room testing the walls and likely hiding-places. He puts his cap down, and as he takes it up again his hand touches a spot, which he soon is aware is "fresh blood." He cajoles and in turn coerces Kate as to the whereabouts of Terry, but she remains true, and the police agents depart, surmising he has escaped through a window.

On her releasing Terry from his hiding place, he demands money to get away with, and suggests to Kate she should take advantage of Nolan's love for her and get money from him. On Nolan returning, Terry again hides, whilst Kate persuades Nolan, after a frantic appeal to his good nature, to lend her the money. As he does so Jenny Cassidy comes in and crows over her conquest of Terry. There is a bitter quarrel between the two women. Jenny learns from Nolan that Terry has committed a murder, and concludes that he is in hiding on the premises, and leaves hurriedly to secretly warn the police. As Kate releases Terry and gives him the money the police return and capture him. Thinking that Kate has betrayed him, he bitterly reviles her, at the same time giving Jenny the money. Kate snatches it away and informs the captured murderer that Jenny was the traitor. Jenny slinks off, and Kate, facing Terry, declares she never wants to see him again.

Miss Jessie Millward as Kate Kerrigan displayed much charm and versatility. Her sweetness in rejecting the love of the honest man with a kindly smile was in splendid contrast to her terror when she is surprised by Terry after he commits the murder. Her fierce love for the scoundrel is also skilfully shown. Capital, too, was Miss Millward's by-play with the detectives, and her assumption of "bluff." Mr. Walter Gay was handsome and convincing as Jim Nolan. Mr. Lionel D'Aragon depicted with power the murderous Terry, especially good being his scene with Kate. Mr. Cecil Morton York was admirably cast as Steve Henessy, the detective, and Mr. William Dunlop ably assisted him as his partner, Dave Morgan. A capital bit of character acting was supplied by Mr. Arthur Byron as the bar-tender, Bill. Mr. Charles Ashby was good as the derelict, Jake. Miss Maud Stuart gave an admirable interpretation of the "high-flyer," Jenny Cassidy. Miss Lillian French was capital as Mollie Dowd; Miss Rose Morrison did well as Freda Ducommon; and the eccentricities of Two-Step Liz, "an early bird," and her pard, were specially good in the hands of Miss Doris Watson and Mr. Johnny Watson. "In the Gray of the Dawn" was stage-managed with care, the interior of a back room in a "down town" saloon being well realised. Mr. William Dunlop is the assistant stage-manager. The resources of the excellent staff and management of the Chelsea Palace aided in the success achieved. Mr. Norman Berlin being assiduous in his efforts. Genial Mr. John Donald is acting as business manager for Miss Jessie Millward.

In addition to Miss Jessie Millward's playlet, Mr. and Mrs. George Leonard were seen in their clever little comedy sketch, "Coming Home." Both do well in this pleasant trifle. The Barnard Family appeared in a scena entitled "Dolls Alive," and the living marionettes caused great fun, and proved a novel and popular turn. George Formby is back again, and had a big welcome from his Chelsea admirers. He sang two ditties with his usual interpolations, "I was standing at the corner of the street," and "We all went marching in." George was in his best form. Miss Louie Tracey was an ideal dapper dandy boy; the artiste looked the part, and sang and danced with vigour. Miss Tracey's song, "He's a multi-millionaire on a Sunday," brought down the house.

Pyck, Tholl, and Taylor figured well as the Early Victorians in a smart scena, "The Dancing Master"; clever Ada Cerito's songs, in one of which she, as a housemaid, seeks a job where "master brings her a cup of tea in the early morn," was capital.

The Five Cliftons really did work hard in their clever gymnastic and equilibristic act, and the reception they received was undoubtedly merited; Florence Esdaile, the Australian soprano, sang with sweetness and vivacity "Queen of the night"; Will Nosam's coon character songs were pleasing. The Chelsea orchestra did justice to the orchestral selections under Mr. Aubrey Kennett's admirable control.

Barney Armstrong and Kelly terminate their pantomime engagement at the Theatre Royal, Nottingham, to-night, after a record run. Kelly has been playing Page, the part that has been associated with Harry Lauder and George Robey, even wearing the same clothes without the slightest alteration. Kelly is easily the first favourite with Nottingham audiences, having signed fully 300 autograph books. 10,000 picture post cards of Barney Armstrong and Kelly have been distributed during the run. Their return to Nottingham will be looked for.

FRED KITCHEN AND "BUNGLE'S LUCK."

The legions of theatre-goers who have been amused by Fred. Kitchen in recent years will be delighted to learn that the comedian is about to launch out in a new sphere—that of actor-manager. On Monday, Feb. 24, at the Bedminster Hippodrome, Mr. Kitchen will produce a three-scene comedy sketch, entitled "Bungle's Luck," which bristles with that pure and undiluted comedy which ever amuses and never offends. The sketch, in which sixty people are engaged, is the joint work of Mr. Kitchen and Mr. Charles Baldwin, and the collaboration of two such nimble wits and clever inventors has turned out a gem of the purest fun, which is pretty certain to prove acceptable to variety theatre audiences.

As is well known, Fred. Kitchen in the past has distinguished himself in connection with Fred. Karno's companies, in which capacity he created a series of characters which were instinct with a conception of comedy that has been attained by comparatively few actors. Perkins and Potts were the most notable of his creations. His first big success was as Sergeant Lightning in "His Majesty's Guests." Then we find him as Jaggs in "Saturday to Monday," next as Perkins in "Moses and Son," then "The Bailiff." "Perkins, M.P.," followed by "Persevering Potts," and "Potts in Port." Now he is to create a new character—that of Bungle in "Bungle's Luck." As already stated, Fred. presents the new comedy sketch at the Bedminster Hippodrome on Feb. 24, and a fortnight later the metropolis will be afforded an opportunity of sampling the sketch at the Victoria Palace.

Fred. has the advantage of heredity. His father, R. H. Kitchen, was one of the greatest and best known pantomimists of his day, and for a period of close on sixty years was intimately associated with the theatres and music halls of London. He made his debut in the theatrical world at the early age of seven, being apprenticed to Messrs. Frempton and Fenton, lessees of the famous old Vic.

A RIOT OF RAG-TIME

"RAGMANIA" AT THE OXFORD

The latest form of syncopated eccentricity has broken out at the Oxford in a phantasy, called "Ragmania," presented by Mr. Ernest C. Rolls' company, which includes a half-score ladies and gentlemen, who possess good voices and much comedy talent. The men wear evening dress, and the ladies are arrayed in tunics and "knickers," covered with a cloak of chameleon cloth that flashes beneath the ever-changing limelight.

The opening is shrouded in mysticism, a melodious chorus being sung on a darkened stage. In quick succession come solo and concerted pieces, one performer giving a quaint "College rag," in the refrain of which he is joined by his fellows, and another singing the praises of "My Persian girl." "The rag-time rooster" is also celebrated in song with more or less realistic imitations of the barndoor fowl. A particularly pretty air is "The dreamy rag-time," and after the power of "The rag-time eye" has been asserted in song, the lady bearing that qualification is seen rising from the depths below ere proceeding to mesmerise her admirer. The concluding chorus, founded upon "Everybody's doing it," is sung in front of a gorgeous scene, which scintillates with many varied hues.

Each selection is accompanied by appropriate antics by the other members of the company, who all work smartly together. The music is by Max Darewski, and is of a most melodious character, being quite operatic at times. A crowded house was delighted with the entertainment, the artistes were given numerous recalls at the close, when the two gentlemen responsible for the production appeared, and Mr. Leon Bassett had a special round of applause in acknowledgment of the work of his orchestra, who contributed valuably towards the success secured.

THE OLD-TIME MUSIC HALL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—I am very much interested in the letters in "The Era" concerning the old-time music halls. I for another would like to see them again. Well do I remember the chairman at the South London. We used to call him George—he was a great chairman with the mallet. Later came "Baron" Courtney, the magnificent. I have seen far better turns in the old days than I see now. They might well call George Leybourne great. I well remember him both in his best days and when he was suffering and ill. I last saw Leybourne at Eastbourne, with several other famous ones. He was with Harry Payne, the famous clown, Shiel Barry, Blondin, and the great Mackney, who sang those noted songs of his, "The whole hog or none" and "Just before the battle, mother." Many a time I have listened to Nelly Power singing "The fisherman's daughter," and to Jack Rowley in "Going down to the Derby," and I have the happiest recollections of Bessie Bellwood, the Vokes Family, Belle Bilton and her sister, Charles Godfrey, and many other old-timers. In those days one got the talent, but not much luxury in the way of seats, lights, &c. For my part, I preferred the old Middlesex and the other places as they were—with the chairman.—Your faithfully,

THOMAS FOX.

Hove.

Mr. Arthur J. Barclay acted as stage director at a Grand Assault-at-Arms held at the Public Baths, Lime-grove, Hammersmith. He received a hearty reception when he came on the platform to make the first announcement, for Mr. Barclay is very popular in the West-End of London. The Mayor of Hammersmith and a distinguished company of friends presided. The entertainment was excellent, of special note being "Lance Exercise" by Non-Commissioned Officers of 5th and 9th Royal Lancers; vaulting and bar exercise by a team from the Royal Polytechnic, Regent-street Gymnasium, and bagpipe, sword, and reel dancing by members of the London Scottish. Mr. Bernard MacDonald recited in his best style a poem, "Wake Up, England."

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"THE LOST SHEEP" AT THE LONDON PAVILION.

A Scotch Comedy, in One Act, by Charles Hannan, Produced at the London Pavilion, on Monday, Feb. 10.

MacGregor .....Mr. J. T. Macmillan
Mistress Mackie .....Mrs. Blake Adams
The Minister .....Mr. Kenneth Black
The Minister's Wife .....Miss Lindsay Grey
A Gipsy Girl .....Miss Dahlia Gordon

"Bunty Pulls the Strings" has much to answer for in setting the vogue for Scotch comedy, which has now reached the halls. A week or two since we had "The Lodgers," by Charles Hannan, at the London Pavilion, and its immediate success at that house secured for it extended time at the Syndicate halls, a fate that may befall Mr. Hannan's latest work in his Scotch manner, entitled "The Lost Sheep," produced by Mr. Frank Glenister on Monday. The situations in this are not so obviously amusing as in the earlier piece. The fun, indeed, depends on sharp contrasts of character rather than on frankly farcical situations. Still, there is much excuse for laughter in the encounter between an apparently "feckless" lassie and an elderly minister of the kirk who gives way to the gipsy temptress, and, thinking to snatch a "brand from the burning," goes awalking with her on the Sawbath. The whole proceeding is watched with sheer astonishment by the village postmistress, Mistress Mackie, and MacGregor, the kirk elder. The latter pitches a tale to the minister's wife that he thinks will give the minister's little escapade the aspect of an act of self-sacrifice; but the gipsy lass is not for making trouble 'twixt man and wife, and it turns out that she is the meenister's daughter-in-law, and that the good-for-nothing son she has married is in a prosperous business. Of such worldly advantages the meenister's wife, who is the mother of fourteen, is deeply sensible, and the "lost sheep" goes home to tea with her mother-in-law. It should be quite easy to add to the amusing nature of the scene between MacGregor and Mrs. Mackie. These parts are capably handled by Mr. J. T. Macmillan and Mrs. Blake Adams. Mr. Macmillan might, however, be more distinctly Scotch with advantage. Mr. Kenneth Black as the minister in the toils of the syren is effectively droll; Miss Lindsay Gray brings out the worldly character of the canny wife of the minister, and Miss Dahlia Gordon is quite irresistible as the gipsy girl. The dresses are of the 1860 period.

TOP OF THE WORLD RAG-TIME EIGHT, AT THE SURREY.

Myrom M. Gilday's Rag-time Revue in four scenes was produced on Monday at the Surrey. The act is attractive, but has still greater possibilities, and its sponsors should be able to work it up considerably. The opening scene is the best of the four, and the ladies certainly look exceedingly fascinating in their long white jackets opened at the side.

In the first scene—the top of the world—we are introduced to eight graceful ladies and agile gentlemen, who go through the movements usually associated with rag-time dancing, rendering "Mississippi" as the accompanying number with considerable spirit and entrain. In the next scene—a dance-room—we are favoured with the "baboon baby dance," but become more interested in "the burglar rag" introduced in the interior of a bank parlour. This scene has real clutch, as the Americans would say, and gets hold of one. The final scene is a realistic Western dance hall. Here "The rag-time cowboy Joe" is performed. The song is rendered with rare energy by a typical cowboy in the typical Western dress, and it is followed by a typical rag-time dance by the company, who put any amount of go into their work. This brings down the curtain on the latest Rag-time Eight, who have all the elements of an excellent act.

A NEW DANCER.

Gwen Gladwin, a young dancer of charming personality, is introduced at the Victoria Palace this week. Her first number, an Early Victorian dance, was probably a little marred on Monday evening by nervousness, but we have little doubt that by the time these lines appear in print, Miss Gladwin, having gained more confidence, will have developed the possibilities of the dance to their utmost extent. Miss Gladwin appeared much more at ease in a Highland fling, her graceful and vivacious movements to a bright Scotch air meeting with appreciation from all parts of the house. Her third and last number is a novelty dance, and this, too, was well received on Monday. Miss Gladwin possesses an excellent idea of the higher technique of the terpsichorean art, but her numbers give one the impression that more practice and experience would considerably enhance her prospects of achieving success in vaudeville. The setting of the act, and Miss Gladwin's costumes, are both tasteful and effective.

One of the most interesting productions seen at the Oxford for some time past is that of Mr Ernest C. Rolls' "Ragmania." For beautiful music and wonderful lighting effects it is unsurpassed. They are featuring all Feldman's songs, the outstanding items being "That ghost of the violin," "Billy's melody," "Persian rose," and "Everybody two-step," all of which were instantaneous hits. The music has been selected and arranged by Max Darewski, and on Monday night the whole show was received with enthusiasm by a crowded house. A word must be said of the beautiful orchestral effects of that master musician, Mr. (Charley) Moore, who orchestrated the whole of the music.

Adèle Levey went to see the show at the Hippodrome, Rotherhithe, first house, Feb. 10, and was seated enjoying herself in front, when a turn failed to arrive, and the manager asked Adèle to appear. The popular lady, just as she was, went straight on, and scored a hit, being congratulated and thanked by the management and Lew Lake, who said, "Plucky woman. You well deserve your success!"

ARTISTES' PRESS ALBUM.

This column is placed at the disposal of artistes who desire to give added publicity to the opinions passed by the Press upon their acts. Particulars of insertion may be obtained on application to the Advertisement Manager.

GRAHAM AT THE SURREY.
SEE "THE ERA," FEB. 8.

The recent demand for the "old-style music hall" is in a large degree met by Graham, the "human marionette," whose impersonations on a miniature stage of variety artistes past and present are keenly relished. The music hall of the seventies is faithfully depicted, with the chairman at the table announcing the artistes in his grandiloquent manner and the quaint little waiter toddling about with his tray of glasses. It is quite like old times to renew acquaintance with "stars" long since gone over to the majority. Thus one sees and hears George Leybourne in "Champagne Charley," Vance in "Slap bang, here we are again!" and Fred Coyne in "Billie Johnson's ball," each indulging in an acrobatic dance of which the originals were not capable. The later period is shown in the appearance of George Bastow, George Lashwood in "Twilight," and Harry Lauder in one of his most rollicking songs. Mr. Graham manipulates the show artistically and is enthusiastically recalled.

THE FOUR ASCOTS.

"The equals of the Four Ascots, a talented combination of all-round dancers, would indeed be hard to find; their solo and collective dancing is really wonderful, the steps being executed with such neatness and precision. Their act, which is certainly the best of its kind that has ever visited New Cross, well merited the applause it received at its conclusion."—"The Era," Feb. 1, 1913.

LUDWIG AMANN.

Ludwig Amann pays a welcome return visit with his impersonations of celebrities. His "modern statesmen" are marvellously good. Mr. Asquith, Mr. Lloyd George, Mr. Balfour, and Mr. Chamberlain; and, of course, King Edward and King George, are as cleverly done as ever. "The Leicester Mail," Tuesday, February 11, 1913.

"MIDNIGHT."

Dramatic Sketch, in Two Scenes, by Herbert C. Sargent, Produced at the Hippodrome, Manchester, on Monday, Feb. 10.

Domingo .....Mr. Stephen Sorley
Pedro Sebastian .....Mr. Rupert Stutfield
Bartrey .....Miss Doris Lawford
Beatrice Sebastian .....Miss Ruth Maitland

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

A plot by anarchists to assassinate the King by the throwing of a bomb from a flat in the Savoy is the theme of Mr. Herbert C. Sargent's sketch, "Midnight," which was produced at the Manchester Hippodrome on Monday. Subject and treatment are frankly melodramatic. Domingo, accompanied by Pedro Sebastian, wait in a tap-room in old London House for the coming of the latter's English wife, whom Sebastian has not seen for two years. The object is to persuade Beatrice Sebastian to throw the bomb from her flat, she being held under an obligation to do so on demand through having married into the affairs of the secret society. Beatrice, however, refuses, repudiates Domingo as a scoundrel and her husband for the shrinking coward he is, and for her opposition is thrown down, her hands are tied behind her, and she is left a prisoner, with no means of communicating with anyone for help. Beatrice, however, releases her hands by burning her bonds at a lighted candle, and proceeds to make her escape by the window. At this point the real sensation of the sketch is introduced. She is shown by cinematograph precariously descending a ladder step by step, wild of aspect, and in evening attire, to one of the leaded roofs. This safely reached, she finds a fire-escape, by which in the same dangerous and thrilling fashion she at length attains the freedom of the streets. Here, half-fainting, she is met by a pedestrian, who calls a taxi for her, and thus she makes the best of her way back to the Savoy.

Domingo and Sebastian, however, are there before her. They have gagged the housemaid, Bartrey, and put her away, and are exploring the rooms when Beatrice enters. A bag is on the table containing the bomb. The latter, which she places in safety, she changes for a small time-piece, possesses herself of a revolver, and awaits the reappearance of the miscreants, concealing herself behind the curtains of the balcony. Domingo immediately perceives that someone has been in the room, and, dagger in hand, discovers their prisoner of the tap-room. She holds them by the revolver, and Domingo is so enraged by her taunts that he even goes the length of seizing the bag and throwing it violently to the floor, thinking to shatter the place and themselves. Then, in an unguarded moment, Beatrice finds the revolver wrested from her by Domingo, and a struggle ensues, during which Pedro is shot and Beatrice considerably mishandled. At the finish, however, by a sudden lucky movement, the latter throws Domingo over the balcony, presumably making an end of him. The issue of the whole experience for Beatrice is that she saves the King (it is, by the way, midnight!), and is rid of a worthless husband, but her timepiece is broken and her dress spoilt in the struggle.

The production is noteworthy chiefly for the intrepid character of Miss Ruth Maitland's performance, both on the stage and by cinema, as Beatrice Sebastian; she certainly does wonderfully well for a sketch which is woefully lacking in probability. Mr. Stephen Sorley as Domingo and Mr. Rupert Stutfield as Pedro Sebastian play the villains in the usual style; and Miss Doris Lawford, with little to do as Bartrey, the housemaid, does that little very well.

THE L.C.C. AND AMUSEMENTS.

The usual weekly meeting of the London County Council was held on Tuesday, at the County Hall, Spring Gardens, Lord Cheylesmore (chairman) presiding.

INSPECTION.

An adjourned report of the Theatres and Music Halls Committee was received, stating that during the quarter ended Dec. 31 last two inspections were made of licensed premises in connection with complaints as to the character of the performance and the conduct of the premises, and two for the purpose of ascertaining if the Council's regulations with regard to Sunday entertainments were complied with. Three inspections were made of unlicensed premises to ascertain whether entertainments requiring a licence were given thereat. The total expenditure incurred in connection with the seven inspections amounted to £8 14s. 9d.

At the previous meeting of the Council, when unopposed business was taken, this paragraph of the Committee's report was opposed by a member, and its consideration was accordingly adjourned. At Tuesday's meeting, however, the paragraph was passed without comment.

Kelly and Ashby are playing in America with their customary success. While in New York they found a hearty welcome at the White Rats Club in West 46th-street.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

KINGSTON EMPIRE.

A popular attraction at the Kingston Empire this week has been Phil Ray, the "abbreviating comedian." Mr. Ray talks for about twenty minutes to his audience in a most amusing fashion, and twenty-five per cent. of the words are all abbreviated, the cutting down of the words causing no end of merriment. Another good turn at the Empire is Miss Lennie Hill, a young lady of great promise, who sings and dances with great success. Though only of tender years, Miss Hill gives a very creditable imitation of the singing of Mme. Adelina Patti, and of a French comedienne singing a French chansonnette. She also sings a number of Irish and Scotch medleys, which win for her great applause.

The Boisset Troupe pay a return visit in their absurdity, "The Bricklayers," which is full of life and causes much amusement. A very good turn is that of the Five Petleys in their performances on two trapezes over a bouncing table. One of the performers, who seems the least capable, performs some remarkable feats on the bouncing table, and another performer executes several double somersaults very cleverly.

A decided hit was made by Mr. S. W. Wyndham in a couple of songs, including "Don't forget your little dickie bird," in a voice of such far-reaching compass that everyone in the theatre could hear it, and loud applause greeted his efforts. The Great Dardinis in the comedy juggling entertainment met with much favour, and Victorine and Manelli, in a vocal and instrumental act, were equally successful, their playing and singing of "Come, sing to me" and "The lost chord" being much appreciated.

The Musical Denvers (four in number) perform with much skill on a number of musical instruments, including the English concertina, the horn, a wonderful instrument called the mexicophone, and a number of things, such as a chair, a basket of flowers, and a hat stand, from which harmonious sounds are produced. The programme also includes Bob and Jennie Leonard in a comedy act, "Keep Your Eye on the Force."

HAMMERSMITH PALACE.

The chief item in the current week's bill at this popular suburban hall is T. Elder Hearn, whose novel advertising scheme is noticed elsewhere. Mr. Hearn is also presenting his wonderful protean entertainment, "The Romance of a Studio," in which he introduces a series of quite original illusions, disappearing and reappearing again in a bewildering manner. Usually the plot in protean acts is rather hard to follow, but with the aid of several "dummies," exposed at the end of the performance, Mr. Hearn makes his act extremely interesting, and at the close of his entertainment on Monday was called to the footlights several times in response to the applause. Joe Elvin and Co., in "What's in a Name?" are also prominent in the bill. The efforts of the famous comedian in this sketch, already noticed in our columns, meet with much favour. Mr. George Gilbey, in both his songs, caused no end of fun, this clever Lancashire comedian being perhaps the better in his "Antique dealer's" scena—his collection of curios keeping the house in a continual roar. Another original comedian, Charles Craston, displayed unmistakable talent in his first song, "Oh, yes!" and both this and his second number, "I had to take all the lot," received well-merited applause.

An exceptionally well-dressed act is that of Marguerite Ismay and Girls. Miss Ismay's songs are well rendered, and the step-dancing of herself and three charming little maids is very smart indeed. The principal boy from the Lyric Theatre's pantomime, Miss Ethel Hall, is scoring as big a success here as she did there, and this is saying a great deal. We liked her best in Melville Gideon's success, "On the Mississippi," although in her second song, in which she donned principal boy's costume, she was, as Wendy would say, "awfully fascinating." The Zylbastrian Band, a fine combination of musicians, were very effective in "1812," and their subsequent numbers also were well received. One of the most artistic interludes we have seen is the Henriette de Serris reproductions of famous works of art, which are scoring deserved success here. Set in a beautiful background, each picture is remarkable alike for its immobility and finish. The crowds that are flocking to both houses are well handled and looked after, and the whole management reflects great credit on the tact of Mr. E. Leslie Conroy.

EDMONTON EMPIRE.

It is really quite a treat to encounter one of our good old-fashioned comic singers, and we are not the only ones to appreciate their efforts, for this week that most popular of comedians, James Fawn, is crowding Mr. Harry Bawn's well conducted and popular house. Jimmy sings first of the troubles of a railway booking clerk, and then appears as a member of the Henpecked Jossers Club, under the influence of "the flowing bowl." It is all very laughable. From Mr. Fawn's reception we feel sure that the introduction of a really "good old-timer" in any programme would swell the booking office receipts, as thousands of former frequenters of the halls would flock in to see their old favourite again.

The Royal Merry Four form a quartette whose voices blend excellently, and their efforts, both individually and collectively, obtain the best results. The Six Buster Browns have no superiors as rag-time singers and dancers. Thornbury, the lightning painter and ventriloquist, well holds his own in both capacities. The Musical Keiths present a very clever musical act, the lady partner being particularly smart and favouring with some delightful terpsichorean feats. Edie Veno, as a slavey, "cod rag-timer," literally brings the house down. Mona Warwick is a sprightly little damsel who can both sing and dance delightfully. Paul Vandy treats us to some of his marvellous juggling feats in a manner particularly his own; and Carta and Mertziana prove themselves veritable marvels in the art of equilibrium. Mr. Max Reinhardt, the musical-director, is responsible for a well executed overture and intermission, and you are always perfectly safe for hearty handshakes from Manager Ainsley and his capable lieutenant, Walter Norman. By the by, that reminds us that the evergreen Walter on the 18th inst. celebrates his eighteenth anniversary as a Terrier.

THE GRANVILLE.

The most prominent feature in the current bill here is Mr. Herbert Darnley's company in the comedy sketch, "The King They Kouldn't Kill," which raises peals of laughter from the Walham Greenites. Mr. Alex Keith plays the King with a broad humour that is irresistible; Mr. Harry Buss energetically portrays Peter Pipps; Mrs. Herbert Darnley makes a stately Duchess; and the rest of the company, forty strong, all work hard to achieve success.

Another excellent turn is that of the Warsaw Brothers, who are in very truth masters of melody and mimicry. They fairly charm the audience with their excellent music and mirth. Miss Dorothy Payne possesses a most tuneful voice, which is heard to advantage in "My heart is with you always," and the Three Owens present a pretty novelty, entitled "Dollies Deforming Themselves," in which the two ladies of the trio excel in some clever mechanical dancing and posturing. As a comedy entertainer Mr. G. W. Burnaby is full of resource, and his humorous delineation of "Porkie" is well received.

Mr. Alf. Chester is a favourite comedian with the Granville habitués, and they always welcome him cordially. At the present time Mr. Chester is in excellent fettle, and his two well-written songs, "The Duke of the Thames Embankment" and "I turned my lantern down," are given with such point that the audience eagerly clamour for more. Little Phœbe Reid sings, "Take me back to the garden of love" with pleasing effect; Carr and Rose, the refined comedy duo, score all along the line with an original musical act that is thoroughly diverting; and the Gilberts, in their bounding cable act, entitled "Pastimes in Camp," perform so many skilful and daring feats that one is quite taken aback at their audacity, and certainly this act has taken everybody by storm in Walham Green. The Bioscope films are clearly screened; Mr. Frank Thomas's orchestra performs in creditable fashion; and Mr. George Clare in the front of the house is the embodiment of courtesy.

HACKNEY EMPIRE.

There is nothing to complain about in the bill for the current week at this popular hall. It is capitally diversified, and as a consequence the seating capacity of the building is being severely tested. Percy Honri is presenting his latest musical phantasy, "Bohemia," with happy results. Another excellent item in the bill is the playlet, "Marked Money," presented by Ernest Edelsten's company. This is a strong and vivid little play, dealing with American "crooks" and the ingenious methods by which they may be trapped. It has the great advantage of being presented by a very clever crowd. Mr. Leslie Carter, who plays the rôle of the detective, posing as the doctor, is quite capital. Mr. Robert Minster as Crosby succeeds in depicting that very unpleasant gentleman with complete success. Miss Violet Lewis as the woman has a rather difficult character to portray, but comes through the ordeal in a very finished style. Abundant applause was accorded the trio at the fall of the curtain.

Jack Shires appears in an elaborate scena, entitled "P.C. Green of Pudsey." This is a purely humorous trifle, and it proved very much to the taste of the audience. Rosie Archer, in a series of impersonations at the piano, displayed her usual ability, and met with a gratifying reception. The Stylo Duo, in an act consisting of hoop juggling and wooden shoe dancing, submitted a pleasant performance, which calls for much ability, and the curtains accorded them at the close were well deserved. Marcus and Cartelle, comedians on skates, perform the very difficult feat, for expert skaters, of portraying clumsy attempts to master the art. The dance with which they conclude their show is a remarkably clever performance, and their reception was of the heartiest character. Harry Moore, in a paper manipulating act, is entertaining, and was cordially received. The Bioscope is, as ever, interesting, and Mr. Rattray's fine orchestra contribute greatly to the evening's entertainment. Mr. Macleod, the acting-manager, and Mr. Watchorn, his assistant, are both very attentive in the front of the house.

CHISWICK EMPIRE.

Wonderful "houses" record their manifest delight at the skilful catering here of Mr. Stoll and his lieutenants in their laudable endeavours to give their clients the best of everything in variety land. Wagner's superb march from Tannhäuser is done in fine style by Mr. E. W. Eyre's always capable orchestra; then Iva Voyce, with a voice of full contralto compass, charms everyone with her faultless vocalisation, and assured a demonstrative appreciation; "a new method comedian" in the person of Chris Van Bern has much to recommend him; his tricks are smart and clean-cut, and his quick-change from the ordinary habiliments to the orthodox evening dress is quite a mystery in its way, and the new method is not without its attractions.

Tom Woottwell belongs to the other school, but is none the less droll, and he amuses his audience with his matrimonial eccentricities and his amusing escapades anent his adventures with a bowler hat; the Eight Frolics are remarkable for their capable dancing and equally tuneful numbers—"The Mississippi Lady" instantly becomes a favourite; to Mr. W. Paskin we are indebted for this acceptable combination, he has reason to be proud of his protégés, whose step dancing proves a feature of singular merit.

Perhaps no living artiste has done more to keep green the memory of our brave soldier lads than George Leyton—his last military scena, "Lucknow," is a further example; in scene one we are again back in those fateful days of 1857; scene two shows the Residency, and a number of the survivors of the great fight faced the footlights with the same wonderful equanimity as in the long ago they faced the murderous Sepoys, the final tableau represents the arrival of the Highlanders and the rescue of the luckless dwellers of the besieged city; it is superfluous to add that George Leyton met with a tremendous reception, and the episode is magnificently staged. It is worthy of record that up to October of 1911 Mr. Leyton has distributed among the Crimean and Indian Mutiny veterans the sum of £5,101 17s. 9d.!

The rag-time craze has ensnared Happy Fanny Fields; she is a living authority on "Kissing in rag-time"; her amusing reminiscences cause roars of merriment; the brilliant little comedienne babbles on a variety of topics in her pigeon Dutch, accompanied by her irresistible chortles; the audience cheer her efforts to the echo, and her last song, "It's the things we haven't got that make this life worth living," is another excerpt from her repertoire that finds enthusiastic reception; Fanny is not content with revelling in happiness herself, but she possesses the brilliant quality of making everyone else as happy as herself; as a Suffragette, Fanny Fields is without a rival. If no better sign of the times were wanting of the immense advance in variety performances, the reception accorded to the Hudson combination is a magnificent example; this clever family, of whose versatility there is no end, give unmistakable evidence of their talents as vocalists and instrumentalists; their efforts were received with acclamation, and applause greeted every item on their programme, which was awarded a veritable ovation for a delightful performance. Veronica Brady, from the "Arcadians," and Solo, the supreme pantomimist, complete a distinctly fine bill.

MUSIC RECEIVED.

"Trusting Eyes." Song by C. G. Gartner.
"Give Me Thy Heart." Song by G. Nutting.
"The Scout." Song by J. Airlie Dix.
March of the Bulgars. By I. Stephanoff.
"Can't Stop." Rag-time by P. Washington.
"Almond Blossoms." Melody for pianoforte by Theo Bonheur.
"Hawthorne Blossoms." Melody for pianoforte by Theo Bonheur.

Commencing Feb. 10, Mr. Harry Leslie has arranged for a four weeks' programme of variety and pictures at his popular Rusholme Pavilion, prior to his summer season, which will open appropriately with the March Hares on March 10.

DEATH OF MISS KITTY WALFORD HENRY.

The sympathy of the whole profession will go out to Dr. and Mrs. Walford Bodie at the loss of another member of their family, Miss Kitty Walford Henry, sister of Mr. Walford Bodie, Bella Skene (La Belle Electra), Wm. Skene Henry, the late mystic marvel, and Mlle. Marie Louise, whose death occurred last Friday rather suddenly, at the Manor House, Macduff. Although she had been ill for a few weeks, her sudden demise was not expected, the cause of death being heart failure. She was only twenty-two years old. She was a gifted musician, and was for some time understudy to her late sister, Mlle. Marie Louise, as musical conductress for Dr. Bodie's No. 1 Company. She was also secretary for the Bodie Electric Drug Co., and acted as assistant factor for the Bodie Estates. She was of a genial, quiet, and retiring disposition, and very witty; and appeared when very young as one of the original Macduff Troupe of Dancers. She composed and wrote most of the music for Dr. Bodie's enterprises, and for one so young gave great promise for the future. She was beloved by all who knew her. It is only a few months ago since she lost her mother and her sister Marie Louise, preceded by her aunt,

THE LATE MISS KITTY WALFORD HENRY.

Miss Jeannie Walford Bodie, Mystic Marie, one of her nieces, and a little nephew.

The funeral took place on Monday from the Manor House to the Macduff Churchyard, and her mortal remains were deposited in the Bodie and Henry family mausoleum, erected and built some time ago by Dr. Walford Bodie, in memory of the late Mystic Marie. The funeral, which was a public one, was attended by the Provost, magistrates, and members of the Town Council and many of the leading tradesmen in the towns of Banff and Macduff. The coffin, which was of solid polished oak, with heavy solid brass mountings, was literally covered with massive wreaths from Dr. and Mrs. Walford Bodie, members of the family, members of Dr. Bodie's companies, and many friends.

LITTLE BETTY RENEE.

Notwithstanding the Turkey trots, bunny hugs, Gaby glides, and other eccentric movements imported from America, there is implanted in the breast of the Britisher a real love of the art that made the name of Taglioni immortal. This staunchness to the classical ideals of dancing is to be discovered in the enthusiastic receptions given to such a gifted child performer as Little Betty Renée, whose dancing is described as marvellous by those competent to judge. She has been called the child Pavlova, and her strong dramatic instincts, her gesture play, and her natural grace, apart from her acquired technique, certainly justify the description. Little Betty was born to dance—that is certain—and that astute judge, Manager John Hart, immediately secured her for three years after seeing her dance. For

BETTY RENEE.

the past few months she has been captivating Birmingham audiences with her soul-inspiring solos as Fairy Queen in the pantomime "Twinkle, Little Star" at the Prince of Wales Theatre. With English critics who have seen Betty Renée one may well exclaim, "Why go to Russia for dancers when Yorkshire can produce such a marvel as Betty Renée?"

Among the many excellent turns appearing at the Balham Hippodrome this week is that of Miss Belle Mora, a particularly petite comedienne and dancer. In "I'm going to sea," she has a lively song, which she sings with a vivacity and vim that is most exhilarating, whilst her final dance, in picturesque Scottish attire, is tripped with delightful abandon and finished terpsichorean skill.

Mr. Eustace Gray, owing to the strenuous time he has experienced lately, consequent upon his big minstrel organisations, sought a little relaxation at Brighton during the week-end. Even then he was besieged at his hotel before he left by eager journalists wanting to hear all about his future plans. Mr. Gray has returned, however, much benefited by his brief visit to the seaside.

MUSIC HALL PRODUCTIONS.

"Womankind," play, in one act, by Wilfred Wilson Gibson; Alhambra, Glasgow, Jan. 6.
"Pearls," play, in one act, by Stanley Houghton; Coliseum, Jan. 6.
"The Little Stowaway," new version of the sketch, by Fred Bowyer, taken from Arthur Matthison's story, modernised by George Abel and Harry J. Robinson; Islington Empire, Jan. 6.
"Their Point of View," comedietta, by Wilfred Coleby; Palladium, Jan. 6.
"The Future Lady Watteau," humorous sketch; Holborn Empire, Jan. 6.
"Sunday Morning," sketch, by Stanley Cooke; Metropolitan, Jan. 6.
"The Big Joss," Chinese-American tragedietta, by Francis Annesley; Metropolitan, Jan. 6.
"Instinct," play, in three acts, adapted by Penrhyn Stanlaws from the French of Henry Kistemaeckers; Bristol Hippodrome, Jan. 13.
"Marked Money," detective episode, in one scene, by John O'Connor; Oxford, Jan. 13.
"Maison Décolletée," operetta, by Erich Urban and Louis Taufstein, music by Martin Kopf, Anglicised by George Arthurs, lyrics by Sydney Morgan; London Pavilion, Jan. 13.
"The Wrong House," comedy, in one scene, by H. Gale, title altered to "Anybody Might ——"; Tivoli, Jan. 20.
"The Heart of a Child," sketch, in one act, by Mrs. Walter Simmons' company; Palace, Reading, Jan. 20.
"The Honeymoon Express," Palace Theatre, Jan. 20.
"Red 'Ria," play, in one act, by Gertrude and Jack Landa, originally produced at Coronet Theatre, Feb. 22, 1911; Tivoli, Jan. 20.
"What's In a Name?" sketch, by Wal Pink, originally produced at Kilburn Empire; Olympia, Shoreditch, Jan. 27.
"More Ways Than One," musical sketch, by James Horan; Palladium, Jan. 27.
"A Social Success," play, in one act, by Max Beerbohm; Palace Theatre, Jan. 27.
"What We Shall Come To: Mister Woman in 2013 A.D.," by Frank Kingsley and E. C. Carter; Olympia, Shoreditch, Jan. 27.
"Policy 1313," piece, in one act, by Neil F. Grant (Our Dumb Friends' League matinée); Victoria Palace, Jan. 30.
"The Little Devil Chooses," costume comedy, in one act, by Frederick Stanley and Kate Gallschalt; Hippodrome, Manchester, Jan. 27.

THE TREVOR CRICKET CLUB.

The Trevor Cricket Club held a grand Bohemian concert on Friday evening (7th), at the Clarendon Restaurant, Hammersmith-broadway. Mr. John Swanson (the club's president), occupied the chair, and was supported by many prominent local gentlemen. The Coronation Hall was filled to its utmost limit. The programme constituted a record one, inasmuch as some of the most brilliant members of the concert and vaudeville professions put in a most welcome appearance. For instance, the Two Bobs, at great pressure—their engagements being so numerous, at the West End—came along and gave the audience a brilliant rendering of their new rag-time songs, "The rag-time cowboy Joe" and "The rag-time dinner," both received with loud acclamation. Those inimitable cross-talk comedians, Dale and O'Malley, set their hearers in convulsions with quite a new budget of quips and quaint remarks. Then entertainment of a different order was rendered by that fine basso from the Queen's Hall and the Palladium, Richmond Roxburgh, whose rendering of "Lighterman Tom" and "In cellar cool" ("Drinking") in character, brought down the house. Tom Costello, the famous comedian, coming on from the Shepherd's Bush Empire, contributed a capital song to the amusement. Cooper Mitchell at the piano was responsible for a jovial ten minutes of story and song; and Bill Lloyd, a breezy and bright light comedian, gave a satisfactory account of himself in two songs, both with a fascinating lilt that caught the listeners at once. His millionaire song, with the motto of "Don't keep it all to yourself," is sure to become vastly popular. He sings it well, and carries out the purport of it by distributing gifts to the audience—real watches for the men, and brooches to the ladies—presents of value as souvenirs. From Scotland came Hector Gordon, a Scotch (real) singer and siffleur of real merit; Louis Nikola, from Maskelyne and Devant's, St. George's Hall, with his delightful entertainment consisting of the patching of intricate geometrical figures into life-like representations of human and other beings; Miss Isa Wise sang delightfully; whilst Miss Joan Deering, from the London Coliseum, sang, first of all, one of her remarkable love songs, and afterwards treated the audience to a fine rendering of Raff's "Cavatina" on the violin. There were many excellent turns in the programme, not the least of which was the ever-popular William Trussell, whose opening number on the piano was a rag-time medley rendered in excellent style, with real technique. The concert arrangements were in the capable hands of Mr. R. Kerr, of Moss' Empires, and Mr. Frank Elliott acted as M.C. Interspersed were the usual speeches, and the presentation of trophies to Messrs. Bert E. Hill for batting, and W. Thompson for bowling. From start to finish the whole affair proved the most successful of its kind ever held.

EAST HAM PALACE.

John Lawson and company are appearing here in Sir James Hannon's "Men Must Work and Women Must Weep," which is described as a problem episode. The "episode" was excellently performed by all concerned, and it afforded Mr. Lawson the opportunity of again showing what a versatile actor he is. His portrayal of the character of Dr. Gaster, whose mental fight between his personal feelings of love or the ruining of his professional career was a splendid bit of acting. Mr. H. Rudlow gave a forceful delineation of the part of Morgan Pemberton, a parvenu, and made the most of this unscrupulous character. As Alma Pemberton, Miss Lucille Sydney gave a sweet and effective rendering of his much oppressed wife, and was a strong support to Mr. Lawson. The other parts were in capable hands.

Mr. Fred Karno's company of comedians share pride of place in the bill with Mr. Lawson's company with "The Mumming Birds." This irresistible bit of fooling proved to be as popular as ever, and evoked spontaneous roars of laughter and rounds of applause, and was as fresh as it was in its earliest days, notwithstanding the fact that the major portion of the audience had doubtless seen and enjoyed it many times before. Mr. Karno was exceedingly well served by the comedians who have appeared in "The Mumming Birds" for so long, and who never seem to tire in their efforts to make this sketch one of Mr. Karno's best.

Chas. R. Whittle sang two songs, namely, "Follow the footprints in the snow," and "Come and have a drink with me." Ray Wallace is a clever mimic. As a dialect impressionist, Annie Roberts's studies of a Lancashire mill lass and a coster "gel" are most faithfully portrayed; and Conway and Leland, the merry monopedes, who would seem at first sight to be handicapped by the loss of a leg apiece, prove themselves to be excellent acrobats. The Five Jovers, gymnasts and acrobats, give a daring performance; the Brothers Idento, assisted by Miss May, present a smart burlesque juggling act, the "funny man's" efforts keeping the house highly amused; and Sammy Weston, juvenile comedian, sings "Dixie land" in good style.

AMUSEMENTS IN SOUTH AFRICA.

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

CAPE TOWN, Jan. 15.—OPERA HOUSE.—Sole L., Mr. Leonard Rayne; Sub.-L., Messrs. Allen & Co.—The Van Aix and Duncan season has proved great success, and the short visit closes on Saturday night. The Wheeler-Edwardes's Gaiety Co will open for a season of two weeks, presenting "The Girl from Springfontein."

TIVOLI.—Sole L., Mr. Harry Stodel.—A new playlet was produced here for the first time last night, "The Honour of the Don," the character of the old Don being finely portrayed by Mr. Keith Fraser. This is one of the best sketches ever seen on the Tivoli stage. Miss Violet Stockelle is chic and charming, and sings some pretty ditties delightfully. The Doraine Sisters and Wood expound rag-time song and dance with great vivacity, while the Dancing Gilberts are clever and seemingly tireless. Larry Lewis, whose make-up is as quaint as the songs he sings, was quickly a favourite. Eadie and Ramsden and Bryan O'Sullivan, on a return visit, are as great favourites as ever. The pictures and orchestra contribute greatly to the enjoyment of the entertainment.

GRAND THEATRE.—The star turn here is provided by James and Elsie Finney, truly described as the "aquatic wonders." The Rees Trio also give an excellent performance; and James B. Waters, an American rag-time comedian, called forth much applause. Pictures make up a good all-round programme.

CAPE TOWN, Jan. 22.—OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Leonard Rayne; Sub-Lessees, Messrs. B. and F. Wheeler, Ltd.—Last Monday the Wheeler Edwards' company took possession of the boards, and "The Girl from Springfontein" made her first appearance. Mr. Tom Payne, as the Commissioner, is dressed in a wonderful uniform, and is as funny as ever. Miss Daisy Wallace and Mr. Myles Clifton also added to the success of the play. Crowded houses are the order.

TIVOLI.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Harry Stodel.—Last night another new company appeared before a crowded house. "The Butterflies" are great favourites. Charles Erard is a new-comer, who, with the aid of a piano, delighted all. Pals and Sellery provide amusement with feats that are clever and fresh, and the pictures are as entertaining as ever.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Davis.—There is exceptional excellence in the turns presented here this week. Miss Ruth Davenport has a glorious soprano voice, and all her songs are sung with exquisite feeling and effect. The Wester Bros. are clever comedy cyclists. Tom Clare, at the piano, is also great, and the pictures are new and interesting.

CITY HALL.—Miss Margaret Cooper and her concert party have been with us for over a week, and a delightful treat has been the result of her too short visit. Miss Cooper and her party have left us for the North.

DURBAN, Jan. 10.—HALL-BY-THE-SEA.—Managing Director, Mr. Edgar M. Hyman.—Marie Courtenay, attired in the smartest of frocks, scored a complete success here this week. In the "Gaby Glide" she was especially good. Diana and Lew Grey in a comedy speciality act, in which they introduce some clever dancing, pleased everybody, and the Sisters Phillips (Those American Girls) supply a unique dancing turn, which is very popular.

CRITERION THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. G. Tucker. — Three double acts and one single turn, and a number of good pictures filled the house nightly this week. Lyal and Burt, in a clever comedy and dancing act, created applause and laughter; Carl Wallace, humorist and conjurer, went well; Della and Pley, who pay a return visit, were as successful as on their former visit. A clever double act is that of Vere and Nelldon, their patter, rag-time melodies, and intricate dancing making them exceedingly popular. The Moths Concert Party, Burns and Bartley, and the Bartz Trio are advertised for the coming week.

JOHANNESBURG, Jan. 13. — HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—L., Messrs. B. & F. Wheeler, Ltd.—Mr. H. B. Irving's season; M., Mr. S. Arden Godfrey.—Mr. H. B. Irving and company have been playing to excellent houses with "The Lyons Mail" and "Louis XI." The Press and public have gone into ecstasies over Mr. Irving's Louis XI., and he has been hailed as one of the finest actors that it has ever been the fortune of South Africa to witness.

STANDARD THEATRE.—L., Mr. Leonard Rayne; M., Mr. Edward Vincent.—"When London Sleeps," that ever-green melodrama, has been delighting local audiences. Mr. Leonard Rayne plays old Jarvis with his usual vigour and humour, and he is ably assisted by the other members of his company, Miss Freda Godfrey being especially good as "Shakespeare Jarvis."

EMPIRE.—Artistes at the Empire last week were Bryan O'Sullivan, the Irish exquisite; Miss Marjorie Lawrence, comedienne and dancer; James Loft, comedian; Reynard and Rosella, instrumentalists and vocalists; Forest Tell, coon delineator; Hymack, the chameleon comedian; Miss Ella Moore, male coon impersonator; "General" Edward Le Vine, comedy juggler; Mlle. Mileri and Landino, the Sicilian prima donna, and the Italian newsboy tenor; and Manzano and La Mora, Cuban dancers. Business has been excellent.

ORPHEUM.—M., Mr. E. D. Martin.—The Moths, an exceedingly clever concert party, has scored an enormous success here. Della and Pley, comedy duo, and Eadie and Ramsden, vaudeville duo, and pictures complete a fine evening's entertainment.

JOHANNESBURG, Jan. 20. — HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. B. and F. Wheeler, Ltd.—Mr. H. B. Irving's season; Manager, Mr. S. Arden Godfrey.—"Louis XI." has been a wonderful success, and crowded houses have witnessed the play at each performance. Of course, Mr. Irving has come in for his full meed of praise. His Louis is a wonderful creation, and has kept audiences enthralled. Mr. Irving is supported by a powerful company, and fine work was done by Messrs. Robert Bottomley (the Dauphin), Lewis Willoughby (Nemours), Claude Beerbohm (Philip de Comines), Ernest Rushton (Tristan), A. S. Homewood (Oliver le Dain), and Henry Vibert (François de Paul), and Mesdames Vera Coburn (Marie de Comines) and May Holland (Martha).

STANDARD THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Leonard Rayne; Manager, Mr. Edward Vincent.—"The Christian" will be produced to-night, with Mr. Leonard Rayne as John Storm. This is one of Mr. Rayne's best parts.

EMPIRE.—Another powerful company opens here to-night. Miss Madge Temple; Sydney James and his Strolling players; Hanna and Bert Le Brun in "The Power of the Dance"; Clarice May, comedienne; Frank Halpin, baritone vocalist; Grace Grahame, comedienne; Lyle and Lena, whirlwind dancers; Fred Elton, vocal impressions; Cummins and Seaham, knockabout comedians; and Geo. Ed. le Vine, comedy juggler.

Last night Mme. Mileri and Signor Landino made their farewell appearance at a select operatic concert held at the Empire. A large house assembled, and the audience was very enthusiastic. Signor Ferramosca, a talented young violinist, played excellently.

ORPHEUM.—Pathé Frères' production of Victor Hugo's "Les Misérables" has done wonders at business here. In addition, the Creedons, aerobats and club-swingers; Warden and Reed, Irish comedy duo; and Irene Shamrock, vocalist and dancer, kept the audience amused.

CHRONOLOGY OF THE MONTH.

Jan. 3.—300th performance of "The Sunshine Girl" at the Gaiety, and 50th of "The Younger Generation" at the Haymarket.
„ 5.—Inaugural banquet of the Beneficent Order of Terriers, Boulogne Restaurant, Mr. Ben Obo in the chair.
„ 6.—The Baddeley Cake cut at Drury Lane by Mr. Harry Nicholls, Master of the Drury Lane Fund.
„ 10.—Last performance of "The Turning Point" at the St. James's.
„ 11.—Last performance of "The Tide" at the Queen's.
„ 13.—Dialect Drama Dinner at the Hotel Cecil, Lord Howard De Walden in the chair.
„ 14.—Opening of the New Gallery Cinema, Regent-street, by Sir George Alexander.
„ 15.—Matinée at the Surrey in aid of dependents of taxi-cab strikers.
„ 16.—Miss Olive May married to Lord Victor Paget at All Saints', Paddington.
„ 17.—Extraordinary general meeting Managers' Club, Wardour-street, Mr. Herbert Ralland in the chair.
„ 17.—Sir Herbert Tree delivered an address at the Town Hall, Stockport, on "Our Betters," and was entertained at dinner by the Mayor.
„ 17.—Last performance of "The Little Café" at the Playhouse.
„ 18.—Last performance of "A Scrape o' the Pen" at the Comedy.
„ 19.—Messrs. Ben Obo and Syd Walker, president and vice-president respectively of the Beneficent Order of Terriers, entertained the other members of the Order to a banquet at the Boulogne Hotel.
„ 19.—Second annual dinner of the Touchstone Club, Adelphi Hotel, Mr. Edward Sass in the chair.
„ 20.—"Milestones" dinner at the Lyceum Club.
„ 22.—Three Arts Ball, Queen's Hall, Langham-place.
„ 22.—Annual meeting Showmen's Guild, Agricultural Hall, Mr. Patrick Collins in the chair.
„ 23.—Fifth annual meeting Coliseum, Ltd., Mr. Oswald Stoll presiding.
„ 23.—Eleventh annual meeting Hackney and Shepherd's Bush Empires, Ltd., Stoll Offices, Coliseum-buildings, Mr. Oswald Stoll presiding.
„ 25.—Actors' Saturday.
„ 25.—Last performance of "Princess Caprice" at the Shaftesbury.
„ 26.—Annual meeting Variety Artistes' Federation, Criterion Restaurant, Mr. W. H. Clemart in the chair.
„ 27.—Sir George Alexander made his début in variety at the Palace in the sketch, "A Social Success."
„ 30.—General meeting Vaudeville Producers' Association, Bedford Head Hotel, Mr. Herbert Darnley in the chair.
„ 30.—Last performance of "The Glad Eye" at the Strand.
„ 31.—National Reserve Fund matinée at the St. James's.
„ 31.—Special meeting of the L.C.C. Public Control Committee, for the purpose of licensing employment agencies.

"THE PASSWORD."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—As I am informed that Mr. John B. Shinton is producing next week a sketch, entitled "The Password," by Frank E. Potter, may I, through your columns, draw the attention of these gentlemen to the fact that I produced my sketch, "The Password" (by J. B. J. Greer), last July 8, at King's Theatre, Ramsgate, and July 15, at the Surrey Theatre, S.E., &c., &c.? It was, of course, duly licensed by the Lord Chamberlain.—Yours faithfully, VITA SPENCER.
2, Oppidan's-road, Primrose Hill, N.W.
Feb. 13.

"Variety," our smart American music hall contemporary, tells us that Sir George Alexander at the Palace Theatre proved a great social success in a well-played comedy sketch, "Frederick Kerr," and poor Fred thinks he's acting in the piece, "A Social Success."

"Variety" is also responsible for saying that "Pauline Chase is to play the halls at the conclusion of the London engagement of 'Peter Pan,' which goes on tour when the *city* run is completed." Miss Chase, so we are informed by Mr. Charles Frohman's representative, Mr. W. Lestocq, will be on tour as Peter for another nine weeks. Last week she was at Plymouth, and she opened on Monday at Cardiff.

Many artistes, managers, and entertainment lovers generally will be pleased to learn that the voluntary liquidation of the Edinburgh Marine Gardens is so far proceeding smoothly, though, of course, many delicate and difficult questions have to be settled and debated ere the directors can state definitely what shape they will ultimately take.

Some heroic suggestions and assistance have been made and offered, which prove that, after all, some people are not afraid to touch what looks like a hopeless business. This is due to the fact that the Gardens, especially the Theatre and Concert Hall, had become something of an established institution, and would have been strengthened if, financially, the company had not been practically stranded.

The winter concerts were gradually but surely gaining in popularity, and Mr. Smith and Mr. Lumsden were making the programmes better every week. The big creditors—it might be said, one big creditor—have of late shown more of the spirit of compromise than at first, and should this spirit continue it might even be that the Gardens will emerge healthier and stronger than ever.

The Hippodrome, Devonport, holds its third annual trial matinée to-day for amateurs, valuable prizes being awarded to the successful competitors. An enormous number of entries have been received.

Little Haidée de Rance is winning all hearts at the Argyle, Birkenhead, this week. She is not only a fine violinist, but is also the lucky possessor of a beautiful voice. She is next week at the Palace, Rugby.

Graceful dancing in many styles formed the main feature of the programme at the matinée given in the Nottingham Hippodrome on Thursday afternoon in aid of the funds of the local Poor Girls' Camp Society. A fancy dancing exhibition is always an attraction to Nottingham folk, and there was a crowded attendance. Among the juvenile dancers was Miss Elsie Grenville Morris, the little daughter of the popular Forest ballerina, who displayed remarkable talent in scenas for Miss Betty Bolton Tildesley, another clever juvenile. The Hippodrome orchestra rendered selections excellently under the conductorship of Mr. Charles Wright. The house was lent for the occasion by the directors, upon whose behalf the resident-manager, Mr. Albert C. Duncan, made admirable arrangements. The financial result was most gratifying, well over £100 being realised.

"THE REAPER'S DREAM."

A Ballet-idyll, Music by Leo Délibes and Tschaikowsky, with additional numbers by Cuthbert Clarke, Produced by Lydia Kyasht at the Empire on Feb. 11.

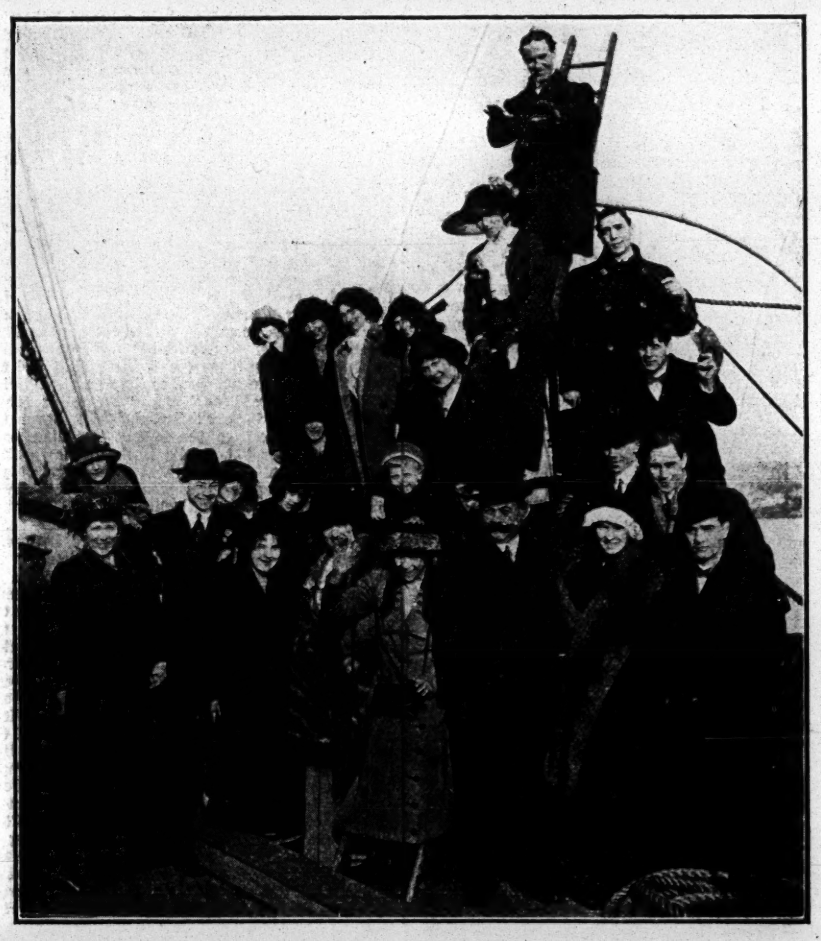
The Reaper .....Miss F. Martell
Sun Ray .....Miss Phyllis Bedells
Spirit of the Wheatsheaf ..Miss Lydia Kyasht

Miss Lydia Kyasht chose a fanciful little divertissement for her return to the Empire, on Tuesday, and it is the more acceptable because it is a reversion to the best traditions of ballet. It tells with sufficient clearness a pretty story; it gives all the requisite opportunities for solo and ensemble dances; its subject lends itself to picturesque treatment; and it is delightfully illustrated. What a charming picture Mr. Harker has painted of the uplands of Devonshire and a field of golden sheaves, glowing beneath an August sun. Poppies are there—"sanguine poppies" growing among the wheat, with ox-eyed daisies and cornflowers. Sun Ray, a sprite, rules their destinies, and fired by her example they dance in and about the corn, while the reaper with his sickle, overcome with the heat of the day, lies asleep. He awakens to yield to the spell of the Spirit of the Wheatsheaf, who at first warmed to life by Sun Ray, deserts her for the boy with the sickle. Sun Ray weeps, and in the gathering sunset the Spirit goes back to the sheaf that gave her birth. Miss Lydia Kyasht, with consummate art, has the delicate perception and the personality that enable her to realise the fanciful nature of the character she mimes so delightfully, and in solo after solo she has the house at her feet. Miss Phyllis Bedells—now quite grown up—is one of the few gifted English dancers, and her trippings are of the daintiest and most fascinating. The music is made up of melodious excerpts from Leo Délibes and Tschaikowsky, and the score has been enriched also by Mr. Cuthbert Clarke, whose orchestra realises completely in their playing the delicacy of the idyll, which is so beautifully put on.

THE PALLADIUM THEATRES, LTD., SOUTH AFRICA.

FIRST COMPANY SAILS.

South Africa is evidently going to be the new field for vaudeville enterprise. The Palladium Theatres, Ltd., are opening up possibilities for the profession, hitherto confined to a limited proprietary in a few of the most prominent cities.



FIRST COMPANY FOR PALLADIUM THEATRES, LTD., SOUTH AFRICA.

No doubt it will soon be a *fait accompli* for consummation of a world's tour to the competent artiste, or artistes, as the case may be. On March 3 the first of the series of new theatres will open in Johannesburg under the parental control of the above-mentioned company. It is styled "The Palladium," and judging from the first batch of talent exported on Saturday last, the new enterprise intends to "go well" at it. When the boat train left Southampton on Saturday morning last, the company exploited by Mr. Harry Friedmann—well remembered as an entrepreneur in Australia and Africa, as proprietor and showman, who represents the Palladium Theatres, Ltd., in London—numbered something like as many as would serve one of London's biggest vaudeville houses.

The company sailing consisted of such notable turns as the Six Flying Banverts, Miss Gertrude Lester, the Dillon-Shallard Trio, Elise Clerc and Co., Fred Karno's special company—opening with "Mumming Birds," the principal part being taken by Harry Daniels, the Eight Sunrays, &c. Miss Elise Clerc, who has been engaged by Mr. Harry Friedmann as ballet mistress, producer, mime, &c., leaves London, to the regret of her many pupils at her Academy of Dancing: they were all at Waterloo Station to see her off. Generally, the send-off was of the most encouraging nature, and everyone sailed "merry and bright" from Southampton on what is hoped to be the greatest vaudeville enterprise yet founded in our newest colonies.

Wullie Frame, with his wealth of Scotch wit, will be entertaining the natives of St. Mungo next week. He is as ebullient and as unrestrained as ever.

There was a Suffragist demonstration at the Bradford Empire on last Monday night during the performance by the Six Brothers Luck of the sketch, "H.M.S. Perhaps," in which an amusing incident on the question of "Votes for Women" occurs, but to which some female occupants of stall and circle seats took exception, and in loud and excited voices they protested and shouted that their cause was being ridiculed. The performance was at once stopped to enable the genial manager, Mr. Percival Craig, to use his persuasive powers with the rioters, but to no purpose. They divested him of his immaculate silk "topper," and flung it into the orchestra, and finally he was compelled to have the struggling women forcibly ejected. This Suffragist "gag" has been worked before. Isn't it getting rather stale?

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

SYDNEY, Dec. 29, 1912.—"Faust" at Her Majesty's Theatre is one of the most impressive stagings and performances we have lately had from J. C. Williamson, Ltd.

When the German tragedian, Bandmann, gave his magnificent production here at the Queen's Theatre in the seventies, with Miss Millie Palmer as his Marguerite, it was stage-managed by Mr. Lewis Scott, and he and the actor introduced many passages translated direct from Goethe. Now it is a completely English version of the pro-Mephistophelean story, with every scenic and detail adjunct necessary to fix the locality of Faust's experiences.

Mephisto then sang the humorous Flea song, and Marguerite one at her spinning-wheel. Now Herr Slopoffski contributes the musical element, confined to orchestral work by most competent players, and well conducted. Mr. James W. Hazlitt, once stage-manager with George Rignold, sways the Thespian wand. Mr. Jerold Robertshaw is essentially the right man to depict Mephistophele's character and instincts, and he thoroughly justified his importation to play the demoniacal King. Miss Beatrice Pery had worthy success in delineating the simplicity of Marguerite, and Miss Susan Vaughan lent valuable aid in her capital work as dear old Martha. Mr. Eric Maxon is excellent as Faust. Mr. Eardley Turner was Faust before his rejuvenation, and he made fine points when he heard the villagers' song of joy. Mr. Harry Sweeney is earnest, natural, and sincere as Siebel. Mr. J. B. Atholwood was a toper, and Mr. Boyd Irwin the priest. Minor rôles were well filled. A fine invisible chorus rendered the sacred music in the church scene. Miss Minnie Hooper was ballet mistress, and Messrs. Leslie Board and W. Little painted all the fine scenery, which was greatly admired.

"The Monk and the Woman," at the Adelphi, by the George Marlow Dramatic Company, is drawing big business. Miss Nellie Bramley is Liane, charmingly and gracefully played. Mr. George Cross gives a strong portraiture of Paul, the Monk. Mr. Gerald Kay Souper makes the gay and licentious King stand out prominently. The villain, De Montrale, gives Mr. P. W. Lloyd all his well-embraced opportunities. Miss Nellie Joynson is the King's mistress, and all the other parts are loyally acted.

"Florodora" at Her Majesty's and "Milestones" at the Criterion are attracting Christmas crowds.

The Tivoli has the Moroccan Arabs, who are demonstrably cheered every time they give their marvellous performance.

Mr. Allen Doone is still at the Palace in his popular Irish comedies and dramas, and the host of picture shows are coining money.

Miss Rosa Bartlett, who this week finishes a successful engagement as principal boy in Mr. Harry Roxbury's "Mother Goose" Co., will shortly produce a novel scena written for her by Herbert C. Sargent, the author of many popular sketches.

Mr. Joseph Lawrence, the energetic business-manager of the Leicester Pavilion Theatre of Varieties, has had the hall reseated and carpeted, and it is now one of the most comfortable variety resorts. Strong vaudeville and diversified programmes are bringing good business, and Mr. Lawrence fully deserves his success.

Mr. Eustace Gray, the organiser of the Palladium Minstrels, has announced his intention of giving £1,000 to anyone who will supply him with a sketch typical of a first-class minstrel entertainment. It must contain all the necessary ingredients that go to make a successful sketch from every point of view, and must be amusing to old and young alike. Hurry up, authors. Fifty pounds a year for life!

Hamilton and Hughes' Enterprises, a go-ahead combination, have taken the Co-Operative Hall, Crewe, on a lease, and have had the interior partly reconstructed and decorated, making it one of the prettiest and most comfortable halls in the county. The house will be run on the twice-nightly plan, and in conjunction with other places at Widnes, Runcorn, and Northwich. The opening on Monday night was under the patronage of the mayor, councillors, and prominent tradesmen of the town, and the verdict of all was "excellent." At the top of the bill are Hans and Fritz, educated chimpanzees. Other items are Jack Edwin, comedian; Mme. Benita, vocalist; and Reid and Power, comedy duo. Topical pictures are introduced between the various items. The resident-manager is Mr. W. C. Burns, and the musical-director Mr. George Burton.

WHICH PAYS BEST?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Many writers in the daily Press have discussed the cinema subject from the financial, moral, pictorial, and physiological point of view, but the aspect as affecting the music hall profession is none the less vital.

Hall managers have openly averred that the "pictures" are a serious rival, interfering with their dividends, and the question comes to the mind—how is it that money to build picture palaces seems inexhaustible and new patrons to fill them seem equally so, while music halls appear to have some difficulty in paying remunerative interest on their outlay?

What is wrong? What serious attempts do proprietors make to learn the likes and dislikes of their audiences?

The difference in the lower price of admission is not enough to explain why good-class audiences, large numbers of whom have never been in a music hall, will sit sometimes four hours looking at photographs instead of going to a "legit. hall," with eight or nine turns, as well as the Bio., at the cost of a few pence more.

Last week I was on a bill with a musical sketch that ran sixty minutes; six other turns played the rest of the time; some were cut from fifteen to five minutes to give time to the "top." The previous week I was the only act on a picture house, and I think the latter pays more in the bank when everything is totted up. I am not suggesting any credit is due to me. I want to raise the question: "What is it that fills a house?" The answer presumably is "The bill." And is not the bill made up between the agent and the booking manager? Can it be urged that the patrons have any voice in the selection? The local manager certainly has none, and he alone is the only person who has any means of gauging the impression created by the various turns; and as to the burning question of "applause," is there not always a silent verdict that seldom if ever gets recorded in the report to headquarters? "Going terrific" and the scream referred to in the advts. are really ambiguous quantities, and a "name" that gets two-thirds of the salary list takes a risk that would be warranted if a thorough analysis of this question of what brings in the house bore out the inference that the "top or bottom" always prove the attraction.—Yours faithfully,

ROSSI ASHTON.

Vaudeville Club.
Feb. 12.

AFFAIRS OF AN ENTERTAINER.

The affairs of Mr. Moss Jay, the well-known entertainment caterer, described as of Craven House, Kingsway, W.C., came before Mr. Justice Phillimore in the Bankruptcy Court on Monday, upon the hearing of a motion by the trustee of the estate claiming that certain sums of money, amounting to £180, paid to the respondent, Mr. Dennis Neal, in May and June last, should be refunded.

Mr. Hansell, who appeared in support of the motion, submitted that the payments were made within three months of the commission by the debtor of an act of bankruptcy, and the trustee therefore sought to have the money refunded. The receiving order was made on July 19 last, the liabilities being returned at about £15,000, while the assets had realised about £100 only. Having regard to the doctrine of relation back, counsel contended that the money paid to Mr. Neal belonged in fact to the trustee of his estate. Mr. Tindale Davis appeared for the respondent. The hearing was adjourned.

"REGGIE'S RUSE."

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE ERA."

Sir,—I understand that an initial performance of "Reggie's Ruse," described as a one-act farce, by Percy V. Bradshaw, was given on Feb. 10 at the Cripplegate Institute, and that it has subsequently gone into the bill at an Islington music hall—under a different title, however.

A farce in one act, entitled "Reggie's Ruse," was produced by me for copyright purposes at Highgate on Oct. 8, 1910, and a notice duly appeared in your columns of Oct. 15, 1910. As I am in negotiation for the touring of this piece on the halls, I should be deeply obliged if you would grant me the hospitality of your columns in which to advance my prior claim to the title.—Yours faithfully,

C. EDGAR MAY.

29, Mark-road, Noel Park, N.

The Manchester Tivoli Theatre of Varieties, the oldest music hall in the town, was put up for sale on Wednesday at the Mart, Tokenhouse Yard, by Messrs. Debenham, Tewson, and Farmer. The bidding stopped at £13,600, and no sale was effected. The vendors bought the property in at £15,000.

Miss Nora Delaney, who has been singing, "Oh, that rag-time sea," "I've just been married today," and "Row, row, row," with great success at the Palace, Bath, this week, will appear at the Palace, London, on Monday next, a rearrangement of dates enabling her to fulfil her engagement at the Shaftesbury-avenue house a month earlier than was originally arranged.

Mr. Norman V. Norman and Miss Beatrice Wilson have been remarkably successful in F. B. Wingate's one-act play "The Open Question," being received with great enthusiasm, and repeatedly called before the curtain at each variety hall they have appeared in.

Friends of Mr. Evan Good, the popular manager at the Pavilion, Glasgow, will be sorry to hear that he has been confined to bed for some days past with a nervous and heart attack, combined with threatened pneumonia. We feel sure that all professionals who visit this favourite Glasgow theatre will join in wishing him a speedy recovery, and welcome him back to his post on his return.

Miss Dorothy Payne, the talented daughter of Manager William Payne, of the South London, is making a welcome reappearance after pantomime at the Granville Theatre this week. The two numbers chosen by this young artiste are "My heart is with you to-night" and "That's what the rose said to me."

Mr. Johnny Dwyer writes:—"In your report for the Middlesex in last Saturday's 'Era' you mentioned Miss Lily Duyer as playing Little Eva. The 'u' should have been 'w,' and the child in question is Lily Dwyer (my daughter)."

Mr. Harry Bawn made another discovery in Jim Keenan, who scored a huge hit at the Edmonton Empire last week, working some excellent songs from the able pen of Harry Boden.

Norbury, the rapidly rising suburb between Streatham and Croydon, is to be furnished with entertainment during the summer months by Mr. Gus Garrick, who tells us that he has leased the Norbury Gardens, a rural enclosure near the "King William," and close by the Streatham tram terminus. Mr. Garrick will open on Whit Monday with a first-class concert party. A roomy stage with ample dressing-rooms will be provided, and the gardens will be illuminated by electric fairy lamps.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(*Continued from page 8.*)

MANSFIELD.

GRAND THEATRE.—P., The Mansfield, Sutton and District Theatres, Ltd.; M. D., Captain Cecil Clayton.—This week: W. W. Kelly's company in "A Royal Divorce." The company includes: Misses Violet Ellicott, Helen Meadows, Marie Johns, Madge Collier, Agnes Zambuhl, Edith Simm, Olive Maitland, Clara Earle, Lillian Herries, Messrs. Juan Buonaparte, R. E. Pickering, Charles Hartopp, George Howard, Alfred Holles, W. Robins, S. V. Lysons, Edward Longford, Lawton Orme, C. Jackson, P. Morriss, J. Rigby, W. O'Connor, and W. Reed.

HIPPODROME.—P., The Mansfield, Sutton and District Theatres, Ltd.; M. D., Captain Cecil Clayton; R. M., Mr. F. Lantree.—This week: The Deroneys, acrobats; W. W. Mossford and Freda Hardene, vocalists; Wyman, acrobatic skater; and pictures.

PALACE ELECTRIC THEATRE.—P., United Electric Theatres, Ltd.—This week: Ellerslie Pyne, Marjorie and Maude, dancers; and pictures.

MARGATE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—M., Mr. Frank Weathersby.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Walter Steele presents "Mysteries of the Thames." The company includes: Mr. Walter Steele, Mr. J. Somerville, Mr. George L. Tearle, Mr. Fred Rignold, Mr. Bert Ellis, Mr. J. Cummins, Mr. George Gabb, Mr. James Temple, Mr. J. Hamilton, Mr. Fred Gresham, Mr. F. Kingsley, Miss Clarice Jenner, Miss Lilian Ross, Miss Dolores Hope, Little Hilda Trelawney, and Miss Florence Spence. Next week: "The Witness for the Defence."

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Walter de Frece; R. M., Mr. James Mayall.—This week (twice nightly): Messrs. Sydney Bransgrove and N. C. Slaughter present "Looking for Trouble." The company includes: Mr. Robert Rivers, Mr. Keith Shepherd, Mr. Macintosh Clyde, Mr. Dick Webb, Miss Verita Vivian, Miss Dorothy Bowden, Miss Charity Wynne, Mr. Hugh Webb, Mr. Bertram Burleigh, Mr. Ellis Dee. T. M., Mr. Keith Shepherd.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., The South Wales Entertainments, Ltd.; G. M., Mr. J. W. Wilkinson.—This week: "The Gay Gordons," presented by Mr. Robert Macdonald. The company includes: Mr. Reginald Sharland, Miss Constance Clive, Messrs. James Craig, W. H. Desmond, J. B. Gordon, George Fisher, Gerald O'Connor, James Duval, Eric Ford, Philip Maitland, John Fanning, E. M. Williams, Misses Emily Mellen, Edie Martin, Ruby Louis, Nellie Bacon, Rene Ash, Cherry Hamilton, and Pearl Vivian.

TEMPERANCE HALL AND CENTRAL CINEMA.—G. M., Mr. Israel Ince.—This week (twice nightly): Keeley Brothers present "Fun in an Athletic Store"; Les Napiers, jugglers; Della Ray, vocalist; Winnie and Madge Baring, instrumental entertainers; Eddy Martin, entertainer; George Danlon, comedian; and pictures.

MEXBOROUGH.

EMPIRE PALACE.—P., the Empire Palace (Mexborough), Ltd.; M. D., Messrs. Thomas E. Fox and Arthur Cunningham; R. M., Mr. George Beverley; Mus. D., Mr. Oscar Haigh.—This week (twice nightly): Minnie Paget, concertina soloist; Charles Hatch, comedian; pictures. Picture matinée, Saturday, at 2.30. Matinée, Tuesday morning, at 10.30.

MONTAGU ARMS.—Prof. House. Proprietor, Mr. F. J. Law.

MIDDLESBROUGH.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—L. & M., Mr. J. Chas. Imeson.—This week: Mr. S. F. Davidson presents "Cinderella." Company includes: Miss Ouida Macdermott, Miss Nell Emerald, Miss Jess Hamilton, Mr. Johnny Osborne, Mr. Paddy Dupres, Miss Jennie Hackett, Miss Dorothy Townrow, Miss Violet Russell, Mr. Harry Rogerson, Miss Mamie Hainsworth, Miss Lily Best, Miss Forsdike, Miss Minnie Fairbrook, Miss Lydia Hobson, Miss Grace Vaughan, Miss Lily Bernard, Miss Norman Lucas, and Miss Violet Drew.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Mr. J. Chas. Imeson; M., Mr. G. Imeson.—This week: "The Slave Girl," presented by Mr. T. Edward Ward's company, which includes Mr. S. Elwyn-Leslie, Mr. Fred Rivers, Mr. C. W. Spencer, Mr. H. Arnold Allen, Mr. Tom May, Mr. Victor Cannon, Miss Louie King, Miss Lily Jessica, Miss Fannie M. Wellesley, Miss Effie Macintosh, Miss Lizzie Chambers, Miss Gem Lloyd, and Miss Ward.

EMPIRE.—M., Mr. W. K. Chatto.—This week: Victoria Monks, in her latest successes; Keino Johnston and company, in "Three Thieves"; Trumpet-Major Wix, king of the posthorn, etc.; Russell Brandow, singer and dancer; Briff, Braff and Broff, comedy tumblers; Billy Rhodes, comedian; Mlle. Yetta, dancing girl on the wire; Quigley Brothers, comedians and dancers; and Minerva team of football cyclists.

HIPPODROME.—P., Mr. T. Thompson; M., Mr. F. Parker.—This week: Edward Crosland's Melody Makers, in "The Burglar's Dream"; Mr. W. Selkirk's novel juvenile spectacle, "The Handy Man," performed by a cast of Middlesbrough children; and pictures.

NEATH.

HIPPODROME.—P., Vint's Theatres, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. A. J. Noice; G. M., Mr. Arthur Brogden.—This week (once nightly): Messrs. Dottridge, Longden and Liell present "Kit Carson." The company includes: Mr. John S. Millward, Mr. Chas. H. Longden, Mr. Edward Vivian, Mr. Henry Deane, Mr. Edward Keith, Mr. Bernard Liell, Mr. W. Leighton, Mr. Bert Hacking, Mr. Stanley Wilton, Miss Jeannie Weston, Miss Cathleen Cavanagh, Miss Marie Longden, Miss Georgette Thierry. T. M., Mr. Bernard Liell. Next week: "Driven from Home."

GNOLL HALL.—P., Gnoll Picture and Variety Co., Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Vivian Aldridge; Mus. D., Mr. G. M. Butt.—This week (twice nightly): Phil Rees' Stable Lads, in "After the Trial"; Syd Moorhouse; Bartholomew Sisters, entertainers; Three Sisters Estou, trapezists; pictures. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.30.

VINT'S PALACE.—P., Vint's Theatres, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. E. Gilley; G. M., Mr. Arthur Brogden.—This week (twice nightly): The Zancigs, thought readers; Dott Moss, toy comedienne, in comedy sketch; Marie Jones, protean actress in "Wanted, the Co-respondent"; pictures. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.30.

NELSON.

GRAND THEATRE.—L., Mr. W. C. Horner; M., Mr. H. S. Parker.—This week: Mr. James Bell's company in "A Fatal Crown." The company includes: Miss Annie Bell, Mr. Ernest R. Allen, Mr. John Manners, Mr. Roy Cuthbert, and Miss Ethel Toney. Next week: Messrs. Montgomery and Jazon's pantomime, "Cinderella."

PALACE.—L. & M., Mr. J. S. Livesey.—This week: Miss A. Caine's company in "Dick Whittington."

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Messrs. The Robert Arthur Theatres, Ltd.; B. M., Mr. F. Teale Lingham.—The sensational story of "The Whip" is thrilling and delighting large audiences here, and the play is presented by a very capable company, under the direction of Mr. George Dance. Mr. J. Gerald Jordan as Captain Sartorys and Miss Madge Girdlestone as Mrs. D'Aquilla present an effective combination of villainy, and Miss Ruth Henton as Lady Diana is most naturally feminine in all she does or says. Other parts equally well sustained are those of the Earl of Brancaster, The Whip's owner (Mr. Laurence Tessier); Tom Lambert, the trainer (Mr. Charles Sandford); the Hon. Mrs. Beamish (Miss Mary Thorne); the Rev. Vernon Haslam (Mr. W. Kershaw); Joe Kelly (Mr. Eric Hudson); the Marquis of Beverley (Mr. Ernest Darrell): Myrtle Anson (Miss Maisie Stuart); and Harry Anson (Mr. Douglas Campbell); whilst the minor parts are all capably filled, and the scenic effects leave little to be desired.

TYNE THEATRE.—L., Messrs. Howard and Wyndham; R. M., Mr. Fred C. Sutcliffe.—"Old King Cole," the merry pantomime, is continuing to score a pronounced success at Newcastle's old opera house. The real wit, the sparkling dialogue, the beautiful and spectacular dancing, the pretty scenery, combined with the clever acting and delightful harmonious singing of the talented principals should ensure it having quite a long run

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Messrs. Alfred Butt and Walter de Frece; M., Mr. T. Gerald Morton.—Mr. Harry Burns' pantomime, "The Forty Thieves," is here, and is drawing crowded audiences. The fun throughout is fast and furious, the music pretty, dancing dainty, and the chief settings quite picturesque, impressive, and ani-

mated. The cast is a strong one, but the outstanding favourite is undoubtedly Miss Mona Vivian, who, as Morgiana, was on Monday night repeatedly recalled for both song and dance; Miss Minnie D'Aubyn is a dashing Captain of the Thieves. Other ladies worthy of praise are Miss Olive Plant, the ideal principal boy, and Miss Mabel Sancton, the Fairy; the comedians work arduously to keep the fun going, and there are few dull moments whilst Messrs. Bobbie Walker, Philip Renouf, Edwin Gartle (an old Tynside favourite), Reubin Kitchen, and the Bros. Beatty occupy the stage.

PAVILION.—P., The Pavilion, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. W. Parham Wells; Mus. D., Mr. Arthur E. Breakwell.—This week (twice nightly): Cinquevalli, juggler; Phil Dooley, in whistling and dancing act; Walter Williams, comedian; the Hesseys, in artistic musical speciality; Felix and Fisher, in comedy gymnastic act; Rowlands and Ford, comedians; the Two Butterflies, in "A Gymnastic Poem"; Ko Ten Ichi Troupe, Japanese conjurers; and pictures. Matinée, Tuesday, 2.30.

PALACE.—M. D., Mr. T. W. Rowe; B. M., Mr. E. B. Clark.—This week (twice nightly): H. A Jordison's "Red Riding Hood." The company includes: N. Barry, Stella Wyndham, Rosie Carr, Doris Wheatley, Ethel Elliott, Gertrude Sylvester, Ena Cairns, Dollie Cullen, Elsie Jordison, Little Violet Jeanes, Lily Keand, Ernie Jack, Fred Dunstone, Fred Spencer, Arthur Carthy, jun., William R. Bennett, J. R. Bennett, Percy Curry. Next week: "The Lifeguardsman."

EMPIRE.—P., Messrs. Moss', Ltd.; R. D., Mr., Richard Thornton; M., Mr. J. W. Kilgour; Asst. M., Mr. A. Devereux.—Messrs. Harry Day and Edward Lauri are presenting the pantomime, "Dick Whittington." Mr. Harry Weldon as Idle Jack is an immense favourite, and Miss May Moore Duprez as Gretchen, the cook, scores another great success. A dashing Dick is found in Miss Wilmot Karkeek, and Miss Alice Nixon is a charming Alice. The other members of the cast work well together, and this is about the funniest panto. seen in Newcastle for some time.

GEM PALACE, HEXHAM.—P., Northern Bioscope Co., Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Richard Waugh.—The chief attraction here is Dan Erlston and company in "Buffaloed," and they are given a most flattering reception. There is, in addition, the usual high-class and up-to-date pictures.

NEWPORT.

LYCEUM.—L. & M., Mr. Sidney Cooper.—This week: Mr. Wm. Greet's chief company, in "The Sign of the Cross." The company includes: Messrs. H. St. Barbe West, Bernard Elliott, Chas. Yorke, J. Wetherall, Frank Wood. Harry Jones, Phil H. Ellis, Martin Palmer, Tom Wetherall, J. Newman, H. Roose. Walter Fleet. Geo. W. Hulme, R. Chapman, and Misses Madge Monte, Florence Bond, Frances Midgley, Dorothy Lart, Doris Rene, Barbara Thorne, Dorothy Northam, Betty Beaumise, Mary Pagett, Kitty Arnold, Grace Courtin, Grace Medcalfe, Muriel Noble, and Millie Reeve. Next week: "The Whip."

EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Frank Allen; A. M., Mr. J. H. Milburn.—This week (twice nightly): Bella and Bijou, entertainers; Walter Bellonini, juggler; Will Hay, comedian; Child Trio, musicians; Archie Naish, entertainer at the piano; Amos Howard, coon delineator and dancer; Lona Wayne, comedienne; Campbell and Barber; and pictures.

NORTHAMPTON.

NEW THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. Walter T. Simmons; R. M., Mr. Percy H. Gallagher; Mus. D., Mr. Albert Heyes.—This week: Mendel, the blind pianist; Gilbert Heron and company, which includes E. Belmore, J. Hall, and Miss Jessie Danvers, in "Saved by Wireless"; the Howard and Collinson Trio, in "Fun in a China Shop"; Otta and Olga, in music and opera burlesque; Joe Archer, "cheerful chatty chap"; Wright, juggler; Irene Rose, character comedienne; Chris Baker, comedian; and pictures.

NORTH SHIELDS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. & M., Mr. Stanley Rogers; A. M., Mr. Horace Lee.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. and Mrs. Harry Lyndon's company in "The Pet of the Ranch." The company includes: Algernon J. Hicks, Geo. Flood, Edgar Morgan, C. D. Pitt, Harry Lyndon, Master Harold Bell, Frank Guest, W. Noble, Little Cayuse, Lone Star, Miss Maudie Vincent, Miss Grace Jones, Miss Edie Macklin, Miss Iza Lyndon. Next week: "The Collier's Lass."

BORO' THEATRE.—P. & M., Messrs. Black Bros.; R. M., Mr. Percy Gibson; Mus. D., Mr. Fred Ridsdale.—This week (twice nightly): Darracq, in Looping the Loop; Snowball and Dolia, coloured eccentrics; Torino, American juggler; and pictures.

NORTHWICH.

THE NEW PAVILION.—P., Messrs. Hamilton and Hughes; M., Mr. Harry T. Cornish; Mus. D., Mr. Arthur W. Parry.—This week: Haig and Novel, acrobatic comedy duo; Nora St. Albans, vocalist; the Menzies, in "That Talkative Party"; Jack Barker, comedian; Ernie Ream, in entertainment at piano; and pictures.

NORWICH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole M., Mr. Fred Morgan.—This week: Messrs. Vedrenne and Eadie's company present "Milestones." The artistes include: Misses Wilfred Caithness, Wilfred Eaton, Fernley Bishop, C. Probyn Dighton, B. M. Halliword, Charles Field, Bert Rouen, George Hewetson, Misses Nellie Griffin, Lynn Fontaine, Mary Lincoln, Bertha Wilkinson, Alice M. Maude, and Violet Gibbs. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.

HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; M., Mr. Councillor F. W. Fitt. — This week (twice nightly): Ethel Ward and company, including Messrs. J. Harrington Weeks, Henry Maxwell, Lionel Scott, M. E. Chewd, Fred Kirtland, and Mr. H. Pearce in the sketch, "Her Madcap Majesty"; Mart and Pep, acrobats; Susie Marney, comedienne and dancer; Walter Ellis and company in "The Sleepwalker"; Rose Cambry, comedienne; Ed. E. Ford, Australian Sun ner; and Fred Russell and Lillian Held, entertainers. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.

PRINCE OF WALES PALACE.—M., Mr. R. A. Atkinson. — This week: The Sisters Tudor, vocalists and dancers; and Nancy Benshaw, soloist.

NORWICH ELECTRIC THEATRE. — G. M., Mr. G. F. Allen.—This week: Ted Saunders, music hall star impersonator; and May Thorn comedienne.

NOTTINGHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL.—M. D., Mr. F. W. Wyndham; A. M., Mr. Howard Finney.—In its last week the Royal pantomime, "Cinderella," is as virile as ever, due to the unremitting and successful efforts of all concerned. Mr. Malcolm Scott, Mr. Barney Armstrong, and Kelly keep large audiences in continued roars of laughter. Edna Morgan has won the hearts of all, and Miss Daisy Bray is charming and winsome. The Sisters Pine have done well, and the Sisters Kebble are excellent artistes. Miss Georgiana Fischer sings delightfully, and the dancing of Little Kathleen Bennett has won for her hosts of friends. Mr. Rowland Green as Aconite has used his splendid voice to the greatest advantage, whilst Mr. George Fearnley does well as the policeman.

GRAND THEATRE.—P., The Grand Theatre and Estates Co., Ltd.; M., Mr. Frank Seabrook.—The promise of last week has been fully verified, for large audiences continue to enjoy the fun and music of "Aladdin."

EMPIRE THEATRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. Ernest Bridgen; Mus. D., Mr. W. L. Richards.—The one and only Marie Lloyd, in her latest songs, occupies the top of the bill here this week. Thornton and Wagner, in a refined comedy and singing act, causes lots of mirth and amusement. The Sisters Finney are accomplished and active swimmers, and the Paulastos present a clever and enjoyable turn. Frank Elliston and company are seen to great advantage in the comedy sketch, "Three and a Fool." Fred Wildon and Jack Smiles cause endless fun and laughter, and the large audiences enjoy to the full the eccentricities of the Brothers Curran, in their boxing act. Pictures shown on the Bioscope bring a first-class programme to a satisfactory conclusion.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; A. M., Mr. Albert C. Duncan; Asst. M., Mr. Stanhope Butler, jun.—An entirely new and novel sensation, "Don't You Believe It!" is presented by Harry M. Vernon, in which Winnington Barnes, Sylvia Morris, Howard Templeton, and company are seen to the greatest advantage. The Great Salores, known as the whirling demons on the trapeze, are a most interesting turn. The Maningos, marvellous equilibrists, and Walker and Lake, the popular cross-talk comedians, produce continuous and prolonged enjoyment; whilst Walter Stanley causes endless laughter. Mlle. Rene displays great cleverness as a juggler, and Marguerite Payne has a lovely contralto voice which she knows how to use to the greatest advantage. Sable Three and Searle are comedians and dancers of no mean order, and an excellent programme is completed by some good films.

NUNEATON.

PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—P., Mr. Leon Vint; G. M., Mr. Arthur Brogden; R. M., Mr. Chisholm Taylor.—This week: Mr. Andrew Melville's company, in "Driven from Home." The company includes: Messrs. George Mitchell, Francis Everard, Harry Penn, Wm. Bradford, George Lawrence, Arnold Winters, Tom Dyson, F. Bates, Henry Helling, Fred C. Bailey, G. Hammond Asquin, Rawdon Vivian, H. Bartley, G. Dyson, Harry Cornwall, W. Fortescue, Henry Statchard, Wilkins, F. Livingstone, H. Coade, G. Pike, G. Thomas, and Misses Doris Grahame, Edith Leslie, Dora Hargreaves, A. Williams, F. Wilson, Madge Muriel, and Eva Norman.

OLDHAM.

ROYAL THEATRE.—P., Oldham Empire Co.; G. M., Mr. E. Dottridge; A. M., Mr. J. Hulme; S., Mr. A. S. Mayall.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. C. Vernon Proctor presents "What Happened to Jones." The company includes: Mr. Charles Sewell, Mr. G. Carleton-Crowe, Mr. Frank Venn, Mr. Raymond Dudley, Mr. Claude Seaton, Mr. John Lirwill, Mr. C. Vernon Proctor, Miss Harrietta Polini, Miss Nancy Clutterbuck, Miss Sara Dudley, Miss Christine Jenson, Miss Connie Meadows, and Miss Amy Rudd. T. M., Mr. Raymond Dudley. Matinée, Tuesday, at 2.15. Next week: "Dick Whittington."

GRAND THEATRE.—P., Oldham Empire Co.; G. M., Mr. E. Dottridge; A. M., Mr. Harry Kilrow.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Philip Michael Faraday presents "The Chocolate Soldier." The company includes: Mr. Chas. R. Walenn, Mies May Clarke, Miss May Tomlinson, Mr. Jack Martin, Mr. Horace Dukes, Miss Winifred Etheridge, Mr. C. Stuart, Miss Sadie Edwards, Miss Lillie Bell, Mr. Herbert Millard, Mr. Cecil Barnes, Miss Evelyn Vernham, Mr. Frederick Leigh, Mr. Arthur Reynolds, and Miss Margaret Ismay. T. M., Mr. Herbert Carter. Next week: "Kismet."

PALACE.—P., Oldham Empire Co.; G. M., Mr. E. Dottridge; A. M., Mr. Edmund Sharrocks; S., Mr. A. S. Mayall.—This week (twice nightly): Messrs. Dottridge and Longden present "Cinderella." The company includes: Messrs. Nash and Noel, Mr. Stenson Carew, Mr. Fred Pullan, Mr. Syd Howard Mr. George Steyne, Miss May Wood, Miss Hazel Deane, Miss Winifred Ray, Mr. Randolph Sutton, Miss Bessie Burke, Miss Beatrice Harris, Miss Dolly Crown, Miss Roberta Svendson, Mr. Will Wynne, and Mr. Victor Knight. T. M., Mr. Herbert Harwood.

COLOSSEUM THEATRE.—P., The Dobie Electric Theatres, Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Wm. Dobie.—This week: Sharp's Tromboneers; the Two Tomboys (two ladies), in "Humpsti-Bumpsti"; the Attillas, in gladiatorial scena; the Hewson Trio, dancers; and pictures.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—P., The Oldham Empire Theatres of Varieties Co., Ltd.; G. M., Mr. E. Dottridge; A. M., Mr. C. Gaston.—This week: Charles Gastop, in song scena; and pictures.

HIPPODROME.—P., The Oldham Empire Theatres of Varieties Co., Ltd.; G. M., Mr. E. Dottridge; A. M., Mr. F. Dixon.—This week: Fred Dixon, comedian; and pictures.

OXFORD.

NEW THEATRE.—P., the Oxford Theatre Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. G. T. Lucas.—This week: "The Pink Lady," by Mr. P. M. Faraday's company, including Mr. Fred Wright, Miss Hilda Vining, Mr. Percy Carr, Miss Cecile De Banke, Mr. Robt. Blythe, Mr. Walter Cross, Mr. Barron H. Alford, Miss Rhoda Gordon, Miss Mynie May, Mr. John Maxwell. Mr. Jack Roberts, Mr. Frank Attree, Miss Zoe Windley, Mr. Harold Loscombe, Mr. Marshall Sheppard, Miss Mabel Durrant, Miss Joan Keddie, Mr. Hewett Whiting, Mr. George Paulton, Miss Belle Rivers, Miss Lal Dickens, Miss Nell Desmond, Miss Mabelle Firth, Miss Sylvanus Potts, Mr. Henry J. Watts. T. M., Mr. Charles Thorburn.

PALACE.—P., Mr. G. Leyton and H. L. Seddon; M., Mr. P. Leonard. — This week (once nightly, and Saturday matinée, at 2.30): Mr. H. L. Osmond presents "Babes in the Wood." The company includes: Miss Amy Alinut, Miss Ethel Glyde, Bert Goldin, Wee Winnie and Alice, Alan Hanbury, Fred Harriss, the Danbys, Miss Lillie English, Miss Violet English, Miss Dorothy Barron.

PAISLEY.

THE THEATRE.—P. & M., Mr. J. H. Savile; Mus. D., Mr. Harry Bolton.—This week (once nightly, for three nights): "For His King and the Girl He Loved." The company includes: Mr. George Silver, Mr. Frank Carfield, Mr. Ernest W. Parr, Mr. Maurice Jones, Mr. Leonard Grey, Mr. Edward Lockstone, Mr. Allan Young, Mr. C. Whiteman, Miss Lois Du Cane, Miss Agnes Anderson, Miss Luna Lisle. On Thursday, Friday, and Saturday: Mr. Robert Courtneidge's Co. in "The Mousmé." The Company includes: Mr. Herbert Glenny, Mr. Guy Buckland, Mr. Eric Barrington, Mr. Joseph Victor, Mr. John E. Swinbourne, Mr. G. Gibb McLaughlan, Mr. Arthur Elgar, Mr. Wallace Miles, Mr. Edwin Dodds, Miss Ruth Wynne, Miss Mabel Irene, Miss Dorothy Doveton, Miss Peggy O'Mara, Miss May Coleman, Miss Eva Brickwell, Miss Cicely Munro, Miss Maie Jeune, Miss Daisy Buckland, Miss Kathleen Cotter, Miss Phyllis Hughes, Miss Constance Garrett. Next week: "The Girl of My Heart."

HIPPODROME.—Sole P., Mr. E. H. Bostock; A. Mr. Jack R. Bostock; Mus. D., Mr. Thomas Richardson.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Graham Moffat presents "The Concealed Bed"; Bros. Carpatii, bar performers; Teddy Elben, singer; Gerald Wyatt and Denise Dirome, in "009 West"; the Whittakers, comedy artistes; Anna Bella, in song scena; Helen Martin, ballad vocalist; and pictures.

PEMBROKE DOCK.

WHITE'S PALACE.—M., Mr. Al. Shirley.—This week: The Three Whites, in sporting act, introducing Ethel, the lady ball-puncher, and Tom White, winner of the West of England championship belt; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, at 3.

PENRITH.

ALHAMBRA.—P., W. Forrester and Sons; Con., Mr. Arthur Blackburn.—This week: Edna Grey, Orpheus Trio, and pictures.

PENTRE.

GRAND THEATRE.—P., Mr. W. E. Willis; M., Mr. James Gunn.—This week (once nightly): Messrs. Hinton and Green present "The King of the Gypsies." The company includes: Mr. Sydney Bland, Mr. S. Leigh Courtney, Mr. Arthur Rodney, Mr. Bertram Thomas, Mr. Albert Grenville, Mr. John Rudd, Miss Emma Litchfield, Miss Ethel Greene, Miss Nina Hardinge, and Miss Josephine Richards.

WORKMEN'S HALL.—M., Mr. H. Salway; Mus. D., Mr. Joe Leslie.—This week (twice nightly): The Kosiques, Jacobsen's troupe of dancing girls; Harold Baker, quaint comedian; and pictures. Matinée, Wednesday, 11.

PENZANCE.

PICTUREDROME.—P., Mr. Harry Burrows; R. M., Mr. Dick Trembath.—This week: Brothers Grey and Ivan Ridge; and pictures.

PERTH.

PERTH THEATRE.—P. and M., Mr. J. H. Savile; R. M., Mr. Chas. Boult.—This week (once nightly): Swan's Alligators; the Three Eltons, comedians; Mlle. Sara, in Statuary Act; Miss Kitty Darroch, comedienne; J. E. Kempton, eccentrique; Miss Lily Roselle and Co., in "The Success of Failure"; Miss Nettie Japp, soprano; the Five Greenlees, in "On a Holiday"; Fred Burnaby and Charlie Newcombe, comedy duo; Weston and Fraser, dancers; the Mannon Troupe, in pantomime sketch, "Uncle Yank." Next week, the Perth Opera Company present "The Gondoliers."

THE EMPIRE.—This week: Chas. Christian, Manx Fisherman Baritone, and pictures.

PETERBOROUGH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. and M., Lieut.-Col. J. A. Winstanley; A. M., Mr. A. Lake-Fry.—This week: Mr. Derwent Hall Caine's company in "The Manxman." The company includes: Messrs. Charles Adair, Percy Wentworth, Harold Clare, Lionel Balmont, Herbert Roxby, Herbert Dean, George Ward, R. C. Howe, Charles Brooke, and the Misses Leta Scarlet, Dora Evans, Florrie Hall, and Esme Lee.

HIPPODROME.—L., Messrs. Hawkins and Frank.—This week: "The Would-Be Actors," presented by Alf. Maynall and company; Reg. E. Camp, rag-time dancer; George Adams, baritone; King and Scarboro', in singing and dancing act; Arthur Stevens, chorus comedian; Mlle. Henri and partner, introducing the human horizontal bar; and pictures.

PLYMOUTH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—D., Mr. J. M. Glover; A. M., Mr. Allan Attwater.—This week (matinée, Saturday, 2.30): Mr. Cyril Maude's company in "Bunty Pulls the Strings": Mr. Colin M. Johnston, Mr. Lowe Mackenzie, Mr. Edward Lynton, Mr. A. P. Roxburgh, Mr. James Duncan, Miss Madge Ross, Mr. Arthur Yates, Miss Stella Campbell, Miss Adah Dick, Miss Evelyn Ormonde, etc. Preceded by "The Price of Coal." Next week: "The Glad Eye."

GRAND THEATRE.—L. and M., Mr. J. Langdon Lee.—This week (twice nightly): George N. Ballanger presents the American scout, Young Buffalo, in "Queen of the Redskins." The company includes: Young Buffalo, Ernest A. Foster, Robert Chambers, Gus Ruhlin, F. Morgan, Arthur C. Goff, Bob Delamere, Ali Delamere, E. L. Restoff, J. Reynard, James Hudson Brownlee, Ralph Brambles, C. Shade, H. Bradshaw, Alf Mitchell, E. Brunt, Walter Hassell, Jack Williams, Albert Myatt, A. Solloway, J. Pointing, B. Ratcliffe, W. Simmonds, Lucy Burrows, Kitty Clover, and Lillian Maude.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—L., Mr. Walter De Frece; R. M., Mr. G. F. Thompson.—This week: "Scenes from Wild Australia," including Fun in a Stockyard, Australian Snakes, Bonita, and Bumper, the buck jumper; Little Phil, coon vocalist and dancer; Fred Keeton, comedian; Junora and Partner, equilibrists; Bish and Bish, comedy acrobats; Carter Livesey, in "An Amateur Anarchist"; and Tom E. Hughes in character studies. Next week: Marie Lloyd

PONTARDAWE.

PAVILION. — P., Mr. William Coutts; M., Mr. Wilson Benge.—This week (Thursday, Friday and Saturday): "Queen of the Redskins." Company includes: Mr. Jerrold Heather, Mr. Horace Booth, Mr. Bert Albert, Mr. Frank Litchfield, Mr. Edward Maples, Mr. Lionel Moore, Mr. Sam Edwards, Mr. Arthur C. Russell, Miss Clara Oakes, Miss Christine Murray, Miss Jessie Campbell, Miss Amy Maitland, Miss Hilda Shirley.

PONTEFRACT.

ALEXANDRA.—L., Mr. George Tankard.—This week (once nightly, Saturday, twice nightly); Mr. Frank M. Thorne presents "The Shaughraun." The company includes: Mr. Frank M. Thorne, Mr. Will Beasley, Mr. Arthur Cresswew, Mr. H. C. Lancley, Mr. Frederic Garrat, Mr. J. Fulton Millar, Mr. A. M. Rose, Mr. T. Sawyer, Mr. Fre Row, Mr. Jack Bowman, Mr. Eric D. Swain, Miss Clara Widdicombe, Miss Hettie Ferguson, Miss May Wright, Miss Lillian Bales, Miss S. Porteous, Miss P. Sharp. T. M., Mr. Dunlop Stewart.

PONTYPRIDD.

NEW THEATRE.—Sole P., Messrs. Trenchard and Jones; M., Mr. Charles Trenchard. — This week is Mr. Fred Le Cren's pantomime, "Sindbad the Sailor." The cast includes: Miss Adah Le Cren, Miss Lily Hill, Miss Lily Ward, the Oxos, Mr. James Walters, Mr. A. W. Scott, Mr. H. Le Cren. and Miss Dorothy Kemp.

WHITE PALACE. — P., The White Palaces, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. Alfred R. Josty.—This week: Mr. Ethelbert Stanley, and pictures.

LARGE TOWN HALL.—P., Mr. John G. Wood; R. M., Mr. Mason.—This week: Miss May Morgan, comedienne; and pictures.

PORTH.

PALACE THEATRE.—L., Mr. Will Smithson; M., Mr. J. W. Bynorth; Mus. D., Mr. Geo. Stephens.—This week: Mr. J. Pitt-Hardacre's company in "East Lynne." The cast includes: Messrs. C. Austin Lee, Joe Rowland, Ted Doble, F. T. Carroll, Paul Beresford, Geo. Panier, Rowe Jocelyn, C. S. Gordon, J. Pitt-Hardacre, Little Masie Mignon, Mesdames Nellie Nadire, Addie Adair, Elsie Atwood, Viva Vrai, Ida Dillar, and Bessie Rignold. B. M., Mr. G. Stanley Gordon.

PORTSMOUTH.

ROYAL.—Licensee & M., Mr. J. W. Boughton; A. M., Mr. Arthur A. Horner.—Mr. George Dance's company is this week entertaining here with "The Sunshine Girl." Miss Mysie Devine, both with song and acting, makes a fascinating Delia Dale; Miss Jennie Richards as Brender Blacker is the embodiment of refined humour; Miss Winifred Volt is another attractive personality as Marie Silvaine, and Miss D. Cooper is appropriately cast as Lady Rosabelle Merrydew. Mr. Jack Morrison both sings and acts well, and is very successful as Lord Bicester; and Vernon Blundell is capably impersonated by Mr. Harry Bentham. The fun of the play is largely sustained by Mr. Theodore Leonard, whose comic exuberance finds an outlet as Floot; another important fun-maker is Mr. Percy Cahill as Commodore Parker; Mr. Richard Saker is conspicuously successful as the Chief Manager Hodson; and Mr. C. McCann merits notice as Stepneyak. Beautiful scenery and a well-trained chorus, under the direction of Mr. Albert Vernon, enhance the production.

KING'S.—Licensee and M., Mr. J. W. Boughton; A. M., Mr. Arthur R. Holland.—A capital all-round programme is this week headed by Guy Standing in "The Blackmailer." It is perhaps one of the most powerful yet seen here, and holds the attention of the audience from start to finish. Messrs. Guy Standing, Graeme Campbell, Harry Gould, and Dorothy Hammond effectively fill the cast. A contrast to the above were the acrobatic antics of the Alex Piccad company of pantomimists in "The Burglars of New York." Frank Armstrong scores in his protean and vocal novelties; the four Rio Brothers are expert gymnastic acrobats; Romani the apache violinist's performance is clever; and Renow's novel musical accompaniment won loud applause. J. H. Scotland possesses a fine bass voice, and is particularly good in his dialect songs; Elsie Steadman, comedienne, merits praise; likewise Len Keppel, American entertainer.

NEW PRINCE'S THEATRE.—L. & M., Mr. J. W. Boughton.—This week (once nightly): Messrs. Knowles and Masterman present "Nick Carter, Detective." The company includes: Mr. J. Forbes Knowles, Miss Mary Lovett, Little Nellie Masterson, Mr. Walter Clarke, Mr. William Burgess, Mr. Robert Joyner, Mr. Edward Wishaw, Mr. Frank Thompson, Miss Ella Vane, Mr. Harry C. Momber, Miss Nellie Shirley, Miss Nancy Lawrence, Mr. Gerald Henshaw, Mr. O. Harris, Mr. Alfred Sinclair, Miss Nellie Waddington, Miss F. Kenyon, Mr. A. W. Jones. T. M., Mr. Wm. Burgess. Next week: "The Collier's Lass."

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Walter de Frece; R. M., Mr. George Harris.—Three lads and three lassies, styled the Rag-time Six, top the bill here, their songs, including "Rag-time Cowboy Joe" and "The Texas Tommy dancers," won unstinted applause; exceedingly clever musicians are the Joseph Adelmann Family, their musical creation, "Old Nuremberg," when they introduce toy instruments, and their xylophone and tympanino virtuosity riveted attention and loud applause; a smart and pleasing turn are the gymnasts, Mason and Bart; the Minsted-Bell Trio, in their musical and farcical comedietta, "Three Sharps in a Flat," were well received; Wittie Wattie Walton; Florence and Rose Showell, duettists; Ben Albert; and Arthur Croxon are welcome contributors.

EMPIRE.—P., Portsmouth Empire Palace Co., Ltd. — This week (twice nightly): Lawrence Brough and Co. present "Confusion," including Miss Olga Esme; Anderson and Nash, acrobats and dancers; Walter Wade, vocalist; Newman and Knight, jugglers; Bert Lloyd, in "What a Pal"; Fred. Priadoe, ventriloquist act; La Belle Hedita, dancer; McLallen and May Carson, American skating duo; pictures. Matinée, Wednesday, at 2.30.

CLARENCE PIER—M. and S., Mr. W. Cuddy.—Saturday, Feb. 15, 3 and 7.30, Miss Gertrude Higgs, contralto; Mr. Frederick Ranalow, baritone, and string band, R.M.L.I.

PRESTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—M., Mr. J. Alban Newton.—This week: Sir George Alexander's company in "Bella Donna." The company includes: Messrs. Stephen T. Ewart, George Bishop, Herbert Ranson, Ivan Campbell, F. Jeffreys, Cyril Cattley, Eric G. Turner, J. Adeane-Barlow, Frank Elton, and Misses Edyth Latimer, Nella Powys, Mollie Moynagh. Thursday matinée. Next week: "Hindle Wakes."

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—P., Mr. E. H. Page; R. M., Mr. Charles E. Clarkson; A. M., Mr. Albert J. Bolton.—This week, Hinton and Zillwood's company in "His Indian Wife." The cast includes: Messrs. Leonard Williams, Gilson Brooke, William J. Rea, Gerald Byrne, Tod Squires, Charles Booth, Ardan Barne, H. C. Nerney, Lionel Wicks, Charles Leonard, and Misses Nelly Wilson, Billie Garth, Laura Garth, Letitia Rushforth, and Irene Atkinson. Thursday matinée.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; R. M., Mr. Frank E. Burdett.—This week (twice nightly): Dottridge and Longden present "Robinson Crusoe." The cast includes: Misses Lily Edwards, Gwen Lewis, Vera Hind, Lilian Mars, Alice Watling, Flo Orchard, Agnes Tonge, and Messrs. E. Leslie Coupe, Arnold Richardson, H. Flockton Foster, Charles North, Donald Gilbert, John Canadian, Elton and Elma, the Astoria Sextet, and full company. Monday and Saturday matinées.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. Edwin Bush; G. M., Mr. Alan W. Young; Mus. D., Mr. J. L. Dexter.—This week (twice nightly): Jack Pleasants, comedian; the Viennese Trio, music and comedy; the Five Poncherrys, wire act; Gerald Griffin and company in "Other People's Money"; Josephine Langley; Six Gordons; Karl and Eddie; Colman Irving; and pictures. Monday matinée.

KING'S PALACE.—P., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; R. M., Mr. W. J. Boyle; Mus. D., Mr. Robert Peel.—This week (twice nightly): Mike S. Whallen; Canova's tableaux of living porcelains; Hampton and Bauman, entertainers; Eight American Rag-timers; Frances McNulty; Morel and Darto; Arthur Slater; the Vedras; and the Shentons.

RADCLIFFE.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—P. and G. M., Mr. G. T. Sante.—This week (twice nightly): Captain Permaine's Five Teddy Bears and Pony; dainty Dot Irving, comedienne; Little Dock Burton; Burg, Hand, and Wise; the Two Weymans, dancers; Chas. Gould, comedian; Henri Albano, in concertina act; Ford Williams; and pictures.

RAMSGATE.

ROYAL PALACE THEATRE.—Sole L. and M., Mr. W. J. Attack.—This week (twice nightly): La Vino; Tom E. Cliffe, comedian; Abex, college boy athlete; Harry Taylor, comedian; Giro-Sans Troupe, in Japanese specialities; and pictures.

RAWTENSTALL.

GRAND THEATRE.—Sole L. & M., Mr. B. Pareezer; R. M., Mr. Archibald L. Pareezer.—This week: Mr. Edwin T. Heys presents "Hindle Wakes." The company includes: Mr. Edward Benson, Miss Nellie Stott, Miss Altona Stafford, Mr. Harry Denvil, Mr. Edward Cooper, and Miss Marie Grace.

ROYAL PAVILION.—Sole P., Mr. Albert Wilkinson.—This week: Mills and Mac, burlesque artistes; the Paget Trio, concertinists; and pictures.

READING.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—P. & M., Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton.—This week (once nightly); Mr. Andrew Emm presents "Monte Cristo." The company includes: Mr. Wilson Coleman, Mr. Arnold Winters, Mr. T. W. Dunscombe, Mr. William T. Riley, Mr. Richard Hunter, Mr. Charles Singleton, Mr. Hugh Montgomery, Mr. H. W. Monte, Mr. Phil Harper, Miss Grace Turner, Mr. Frank Seymour, Mr. H. Smith, Mr. W. E. Johnson, Miss Kate Walfred, Miss Etheldreda Taaffe. T. M., Mr. Phil Harper.

PALACE THEATRE.—P., Reading Palace Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Walter T. Simmons; R. M., Mr. Jesse Sparrow; Mus. D., Mr. Fred Leake.—This week (twice nightly): A. C. Lilly presents "The Gentleman Ranker"; Tom E. Dean, comedian; Webb and Branston, vocalists; the Goodalls, in trampoline act; Renee Adair, comedienne; Jack Edge, comedian; "Fun in a Dormitory," singing and dancing act; and pictures.

ROCHDALE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; R. M., Mr. Norman Robinson.—This week (once nightly): Mr. George Dance's company in "A Waltz Dream." The company includes: Mr. Frederick Hearne, Mr. Edwin Brett, Mr. Harry B. Clark, Mr. Arthur Medwin, Mr. Jack Govan, Mr. Henry Brooke, Mr. Fred Pitt, Mr. Will Hindson, Miss Dorothy Moulton, Miss Josset Ellis, Miss Emmeline Orford, Miss Dorothy Waine, Miss Maud Lancaster, Miss Irene Bradbrook, Miss Maude Vyse, Miss Florence Seymour, Miss Hilda Shepherd, Miss Madge Escolme, and Miss Hilda Guiver. Next week: "Kismet."

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—P., the Jackson Family; M., Mr. Jas. Jackson, sen.—This week: Messrs. Charles W. and J. R. Poole's dioramic scena, "The Loss of the Titanic"; Hilden Bryar, contralto; the Gilletts, in "A Crazy Postman"; Enzer Trio, in speciality act, comprising juggling and ju-jitsu; Edwin Lawrence, comedian; Master Frank Wilson, juvenile musical instrumentalist; Sie Tehar's war tumblers; and capital pictures.

PRINGLE'S EMPIRE.—Sole L., Pringle's Picture Palaces, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Ralph Pringle; R. D., Mr. Jas. Pringle.—This week: Three Annfields, vocal, instrumental, and mat dancing act; Will Warren, Irish baritone; and pictures.

ROTHERHAM.

ROYAL.—P., The North of England Theatres, Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Frank Macnaghten; R. M., Mr. John Dunbar; Mus. D., Mr. A. C. Harrison.—This week: Mr. George Edwardes' company in "The Merry Widow." The company includes: Mr. Robt. Needham, Mr. Alfred Beers, Mr. Ronald Pomeroy, Mr. Adrian Beaumont, Mr. Tom H. David, Mr. Sydney Calland, Mr. Cecil Warwick, Miss Cecil Haydon, Miss Katie May, Miss Dacie Bedford, Miss Ethel Darsley, Miss Adeline Roze, and Miss Trixie Vaenor.

HIPPODROME. — P., The Rotherham Hippodrome, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. George E. Smith; G. M., Mr. Claude Shayler; R. M., Mr. William Pearson; Mus. D., Mr. J. Millar.—This week: Francini Olloms and Page, in acrobatic and musical act; Bart and Bart, in "The Baggage Wreckers"; Fred Carey, comedian; Annetta and Lilian, novelty equilibrists; Elsie Arnold and Lil Baxter, in classical selections; G. W. Parsons, comedian; Pauline Du Barrie, male impersonator; and Hurl and Ford, comedians and dancers.

RUGBY.

VINT'S NEW HIPPODROME AND THEATRE. P., Mr. Leon Vint; G. M., Mr. Arthur Brogden. —For the first three nights of the week Mr. Chas. H. Lester and company presented "The Frontier Queen." The company includes: Mr. Chas. H. Lester, Mr. Henry Johnson, Mr. John Talford, Mr. Henry C. Gilpin, Mr. Henry Bowler, Chief Brown Bear, Chief Eagle Elk, Mr. Edward O'Grady, Miss Beatrice Anderson, Miss Dorothy Riddell, and Miss M. Majilton. For the last three nights of the week, Mr. George Dance's company is presenting "The Chocolate Soldier."

VINT'S ELECTRIC PALACE OF VARIETIES. —P., Mr. Leon Vint, G. M., Mr. Arthur Brogden. —The turns this week are Graham, the human marionette; Daisy and her Eight Stars; and pictures.

RUNCORN.

PUBLIC HALL.—L., Messrs. Hamilton and Hughes.—This week (twice nightly): Harry Edson and his dog comedian "Doc"; The Shannons, comedy couple; Sadie and Vone, comedy and dancing; Allan Farman, character vocalist, in "A Wanderer's Dream"; and pictures

SALFORD.

PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE.—P. & M., Mr. E. B. Goulden.—This week (once nightly, and Wednesday matinée, 2.30): Charles Lock presents "Bonnie Mary." The company includes: Mr. George Lyttleton-Holyoake, Mr. George Dudley, Mr. John Cullen, Mr. Ernest J. Fare, Mr. Victor T. Raymond, Mr. Walle Spinner, Mr. Charles Myers, Mr. Tom Senior, Mr. William Grante, Mr. Frank Preston, Miss Leah Marlborough, Miss Lissa Young, Miss Alice Morrow, Miss Beatrice Malvern. T. M., Mr. Walle Spinner.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—M. D., Mr. W. Turner; G. M., Mr. Chas. A. Hurley; Mus. D., Mr. Sidney L. Hampton.—This week: Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Levy and Mr. J. E. Cardwell present (twice n

MONTGOMERY HALL.—Catlin's talented Pierrots are doing excellent business, and their songs, concerted pieces, and laughable sketches are well received.

BOSTOCK'S JUNGLE.—G. M., Mr. Harry Tudor.—The favourite resort of old and young shows no sign of waning popularity. Charles Miller and his lions are here again.

SHREWSBURY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Cinema Theatre (Midlands), Ltd.; M., Mr. Clifford Womersley; Mus. D., Mr. Arthur Page.—This week (once nightly, and matinées Thursday and Saturday, 2.30): Mr. and Mrs. John Walters present "Robinson Crusoe." The company includes: Miss Dorothy Veitch, Miss Freda Plowden; Miss Kitty Liske, Miss Elsie Edwards, Miss Alice Blackburn, Miss Esme Ellesmere, Annie Carling, Doris Somerset, the Marius Low Dancing Girls, the Bros. Aston, Baby Beaty, Harry Murr, Fred Henry, Walter Lennard, the Stevanos, Edwin Ludlow, Tom Hulme, Dan Belmore, Mollie Carling, Sylvia Seville, Billy Sands, "Bruce," Dan Best, Dorothy Ashby, Jessie Hardacre. Next week: "Fanny's First Play."

SMETHWICK.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole P., Mr. Charles Barnard; M., Mr. James Chapman.—This week (once nightly): Messrs. M. Montgomery and E. C. Jazon present "Dick Whittington." The company includes: Miss Jennie Reeve, Will Cameo, William Miller, Fred Ward, Goodall and Knox, George Belrose, Miss Nellie Lewis, Miss M. D. Velin, Miss Mollie Sayers, Will Penn, Miss Kitty Pearce, Miss Amy Gordon, Miss Ethel Barton, Miss Selina Swift, &c. T. M., Mr. John C. Jazon. Matinée, Saturday, 2.

EMPIRE, LTD.—M. D., Mr. B. Kennedy; S., Mr. W. H. Adams; A. M., Mr. A. G. Guest.—This week Louis Taylor's company present "The Adder's Tooth." The cast includes: Mr. Herbert Pearson, Miss Katherine Clarke, Mr. E. E. Howard, and Miss Ailsa Lorne; T. E. Johnstone, in comedy chorus songs; Joe Bates, the singing collier; Harpe and Harper, in vocal and instrumental act; Violet Leslie, vocalist; Polo and Florence, herculean equilibrists; and pictures.

BEARWOOD Coliseum.—P., Smethwick Empire, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. H. Kennedy.—This week: Ernie Garner, comedian; Bell and Frey, in comedy act; Two Le Bruns, Edie and Edgar, in equilibristic speciality; and pictures.

SOUTHAMPTON.

HIPPODROME.—P., South of England Hippodromes, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Walter de Frece; R. M., Mr. H. Yardley.—This week (twice nightly): Fregolia, in sketches; G. Prince; Marie Goodwin, comedienne; Herbert La Martine, dancer; Guest and Newlyn; Stuart Cleveland and company, in "A Policeman and a Man"; Frank L. Gregory Troupe, in juggling; and pictures.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—L. & M., Mr. B. Pareezer; R. M., Mr. Julian Graham.—This week (once nightly): Mr. E. A. Hill-Mitchelson, jun., presents "A Queen for a Wife." The company includes: Mr. E. A. Hill-Mitchelson, jun.; Mr. Ernest Fosbrooke, Mr. Arthur Robinson, Mr. Michael Staples, Mr. Arthur Robinson, Mr. W. H. Garbois, Mr. Henry Armitage, Mr. Tom J. Taylor, Mr. Edward Gramon, Mr. W. Carpenter, Mr. H. Toms, Miss Florence French, Miss Rosie Russell, Mrs. Bennett, Miss Alice Belmore. T. M., Mr. Howard Crispin. Next week: "Ann."

SOUTHPORT.

OPERA HOUSE.—L. & M., Mr. Percy Hutchison; B. M., Mr. George Clarkson.—This week: The D'Oyly Carte Opera Company present, on Monday and Thursday, "The Mikado"; Tuesday, "The Gondoliers"; Wednesday, "Iolanthe"; Friday, Patience"; and on Saturday, "The Yeomen of the Guard." The company includes: Mr. Sydney Granville, Mr. Strafford Moss, Mr. Leicester Tunks, Mr. Henry Herbert, Mr. Henry A. Lytton, Mr. Fred Billington, Mr. Hugh Blackmore, Mr. George Sinclair, Mr. Allen Morris, Mr. Fred Drawater, Miss Olive Turner, Miss Beatrice Boarer, Miss Louie Rene, Miss Hilda Cross, &c. Next week: "Ben Hur."

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES AND WINTER GARDENS.—L. and D. G., Mr. W. Simpson Cross, F.Z.S.—This week (twice nightly): Burr and Retter, eccentric acrobats; Salt Bush Bill, Australian stock whip manipulator; Marie Gros., comedienne and dancer; Sterne and Laurier, musicians and dancers; Sylvene, in equilibrist act; Elsie D'Estree, comedienne and dancer; Cora Gill and Co., in Yorkshire scena, "An Angel Unawares"; and pictures.

PIER PAVILION.—L., Mr. Frank Magnaghten; M., Mr. Eric Longden.—This week (twice nightly): The Motley Four, vocalists and humorists; the Two Canadians, instrumentalists; Cestria, acrobatic comedy juggler and tumbler; the Oran Trio, gymnasts; Louie Tinsley, patter comedienne; John Earl, the hatedian; H. Connorton, in "Shadows on the Blind"; Wheeler and Berkeley, in "The Toff and the Taxi"; and pictures.

SOUTH SHIELDS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. & M., Mr. John W. Coulson; Mus. D., Mr. Joseph Hopper.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Charles Elderton presents "Aladdin." The company includes: Mr. Henry Eglington, Miss Agnes Collier, Miss Florrie Curran, Miss Alice Raymond, Miss Minnie Terry, Miss Bella Terry, Miss Lillie Fuller, Miss Annie Webster, Mr. Horace Wyatt, Mr. Herbert Fuller, Mr. George Delamere, Brothers Granville, Mr. Harry Le Vaine, Mr. Frank Moore. Matinée, Saturday, at 2. Next week: "The Indian Scout."

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—M. D., Mr. Richard Thornton; G. M., Mr. Frank Allen; R. M., Mr. Edwin Winter.—This week: Lieut. Insen and his band, in "Music in the Forest"; George Newburn, mimic; Austin Temple, assisted by Irene Vincent, in "Magical Problems"; Nine Dainty Dots, in "The Gipsies' Revels"; Hayes and Merritt, the bounding marvels; James Stewart, the tramp at the piano; Bert Weston, comedian; and pictures.

PALACE ELECTRIC THEATRE, HIGH SHIELDS.—M., Mr. W. Bryant; Asst. M., Mr. Taylor.—This week: The Toladonas, in their musical mélange; Daisy and Dots, rag-time singers and dancers; and pictures.

GRAND ELECTRIC THEATRE.—M., Mr. James Bainton.—This week: Jean Gordon, magician; Tintone, concertina soloist; and pictures.

KING'S HALL.—M., Mr. M. B. Elsy.—This week: Guy Rider, whistler; and pictures.

SPENNYMOOR.

CAMBRIDGE.—L., Messrs. Alf. Burrows and Thos. Drewett.; M., Mr. Drewett.—This week: Cambridge's Jolly Millers in pantomime sketch; Little Bob, juvenile comedian; Zelda Moritz, comedienne; Elvyno Belles and Boys, in song scene; Cinnetta Campbell, mezzo-soprano; Nestar, juggler; and Les Pagolas, acrobats.

ARCADIA.—P., Mr. R. F. Gowland; M., Mr. H. E. Feather.—This week: Four Ricardos, illusionists; Rosie Reys, contralto vocalist; Darius, equilibrist; Little Bella and Jules Terry, duettists; and pictures.

EMPIRE.—P., Durham County Picture Hall Co.; G. M., Mr. W. D. Huzzard.—This week: The Moores, harmonising vocalists, in song scena, "The Soldier and the Maid"; Ellis and Bolton, comedians; and pictures.

STAFFORD.

PLAYHOUSE.—L. & M., Mrs. Evelyn Thomas.—Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday Mr. Geo. Dance's company in "The Quaker Girl." Company includes: Messrs. J. Gray, Ken Worth, R. Dunn, C. Cantley, M. Macdonald J. Hughes, Nelson White, R. Gladstone, Louis Wigley, Misses Elfie Vincent, Rita Everard, Vivienne Gower, Violet Willard, Elsie Skillings, Doris Gray, Rosalie Payne, Rene Buckingham, Ruby Bradfield, Blanche Travis, Trixie Andrew, and Nellie Hay. Conductor, Mr. Ernest Wolfe. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday Derwent Hall Caine's Co. "The Manxman." Company includes: Messrs. Charles Adair, Percy Wentworth, Harold Clare, L. Balmont, H. Roxby, H. Dean, G. Ward, R. C. Howe, C. Brooke, and Misses Esme Lee, Florrie Hall, Dora Evans, and Leta Scarlett.

STANLEY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., the Stanley Theatre Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Mark H. Lindon; Mus. D., Mr. J. F. Macdonald.—This week (once nightly, and Saturday matinée, 2): Mlle. de Rose presents "Cinderella." The company includes: Mr. J. H. Hawtrey, Mr. F. White, Mr. E. Brown, Miss Marion Homer, Mlle. de Rose, Miss Emma Don, Miss Laura Lane, Miss Alice Danby, Miss Mabel Tremere, Miss Nellie Hill, Miss Dolly Caffrey, Mr. Bob Coates, Mr. Billee Bell, Mr. Tot Drydens, Mr. Fred Fredrico, Mr. Edward Edgardo, Mr. Harry Cooke, Miss Hilda Claremont. T. M., Mr. F. L. Arthur.

ST. HELENS.

THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—P., St. Helens Theatre, Ltd.; G. M., Mr. McLeod Loader; A. M., Mr. Harry E. Johnson.—This week: Mr. Cyril Maude's company in "Bunty Pulls the Strings." The cast includes: Mr. David Urquhart, Mr. E. B. Drysdale, Mr. Abie Barker, Mr. Frank Reynor, Mr. Forest Niven, Miss Mary Campbell, Miss Josephine Woodward, Miss Ella Young, Miss Eva Young, and Miss Jean Clyde. Preceded by a play, "The Price of Coal," in which Miss Eva Young, Mr. R. Douglas, Miss Josephine Woodward, and Miss Mary Campbell take part.

HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. Barrasford, Sley, and Willmot; A. M., Mr. Leo Weisker.—Mr. Evelyn A. Dell's company in "The Old Home." The cast includes: Mr. A'Dell, Mr. George F. Leicester, Mr. Reginald Brown, Mr. Cliff. H. Astley, Miss Ethel Ashleigh, Miss Harriett Lloyd, and Miss Amy Dalby.

STOCKPORT.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole O. & M., Mr. Charles Revill; A. M., Mr. Wm. Revill.—This week: Mr. Robert Courtneidge's production, "The Arcadians." The company includes: Messrs. Dan Algar, George Hestor, H. Nelson Hancock, W. Ryce, R. Gascoigne, J. Jolly, Thomas A. Braidon, Reginald Harcourt, Robert Montgomery, Misses Patricia Musgrave, Joan Leslie, Nellie Taylor, Cecil O'Shea, Ethel Rainforth, Madeleine Curtis, Hazel Alexander, Edith Drayson, Cecil Carey, Maudie Ray, and Mr. Hamilton Ryan, Mr. Fred Ives, and Miss Mary Powell.

STOCKTON.

GRAND THEATRE.—P., Mr. John Batty; M., Mr. Walter Batty.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. G. Carlton Wallace presents "A Thief in the Night." The company includes: Mr. R. Watson, Mr. Ellis Leigh, Mr. Norman B. Cannon, Mr. Hugh Wallace, Mr. Francis James, Mr. Johnny Leoni, Mr. Algie Spalding, Mr. Henry Stanton, Mr. Arthur Moran, Mr. Bert Hedger, Mr. Philip Crossley, Miss Irene Chalmers, Miss Elizabeth Watkins, Miss Josephine Colona, Miss Hettie Graham, Miss Kathleen Arding, and Miss May Byron. T. M., Mr. Hugh Wallace.

HIPPODROME.—L. & G. M., Mr. Harry Burns; R. & M., Mr. G. V. Stainton.—This week (twice nightly): Alexandre and Hughes, comedians; Carmen Hand, comedienne; Rowland juggler; Mertz and Whittle; Charles Berry, comedian; Dancing Paceys; the Lorch Family; and pictures. Next week: "The Forty Thieves."

STOKE-ON-TRENT.

HIPPODROME.—P., Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; M., Mr. William Berson.—This week Miss Edith St. Clares presents (twice nightly) "Aladdin." The company includes: Miss Nellie Bowden, Miss Ivy Gallard, Mr. Harry Watson, Messrs. Harry Shaw, Bob King, Oliver Conroy, the Maro Duo, Misses Lilian Ramsdale, and Lillie Hales. Specialities by the Maro Duo on the horizontal bars; and Madam Holt's "Follies," a juvenile singing and dancing act.

SUNDERLAND.

KING'S THEATRE.—L. & M., Mr. S. F. Davidson; G. M., Mr. Lloyd Townrow; T., Mr. L. Crawford Orr. — Mr. J. Chas. Imeson's pantomime, "Aladdin," has entered upon its second and last week on Monday night, when the artistes had a gratifying reception. Miss Florence Imeson, in the title-rôle, handled her part finely from start to finish, and got the most out of her vocal numbers. As Princess So-Shi Miss Nellie Dale acted with pleasing personality, and also scored in song. Miss Lola Patey invested the part of Gretchen with a pleasing type of humour, and Misses Cissy and May Iris as Chee-Ki and Pekoe were heard to advantage in duets. Mr. Edward Lewis as Widow Twankey seemed indefatigable in his efforts to create a laugh, and was always amply rewarded. Another pair of sterling laughter-makers were Regan and Ryan as the Chinese policeman, whose funny business is quite indispensable. Other parts well handled were Abanazar by Mr. Arthur Poole, Pi-Krust by Mr. J. Courtenay Fagan, and the Grand Vizier by Mr. Will Percival. Good work also came from the Six Russell Girls and the Twelve Mimosa Girls.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Mr. Richard Thornton.—Mr. Harry Foxwell's company is playing here this week in the sporting drama, "The Gambler," by Sheila Walsh. Miss Maisie Hanbury is the leading lady, and she gives a fine portrayal of Helen Randall. Miss Constance Medwyn is equally good as Lady Paula Ware. Mr. F. Scott Leighton submits a masterly performance as Dick Randall. Mr. Dane Clark is seen in a clever study of Peter Burton, and Messrs. Leonard S. Harrison (Capt. Cyril Stanley), and Frank N. St. Clair (Snig Fowler), both fill their parts in commendable manner.

PALACE THEATRE.—G. M., Mr. A. G. Hamilton.—The Quaint 'Uns are giving a highly amusing performance here on original lines. The Kelvins, juvenile vocalists and dancers, do their work in smart style, and the Two Lilys give a skilful equilibristic act.

EMPIRE THEATRE. — M. D., Mr. Richard Thornton; G. M., Mr. Hy. Esden.—Heading a capital programme here is Bert Coote and company in "A Lamb on Wall-street." Mr. Coote's propensities for making people laugh are well known, and he appears to be funnier than ever on his present visit. Wm. Ferry, contortionist, gives a remarkable performance. Speedwell does some novel brush work with an exceedingly skilled hand and humorous touch. Jock Mackay is a Scotch humorist distinctly above the average. The marvellous Astis are an acrobatic troupe who contribute a daring performance. Emerald and Dupre are highly successful in the presentation of their spirited sketch, "A Hot Scotch." The New Macs, comedians, and Mabel Moss, comedienne, also give pleasing turns.

SWANSEA.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Mr. William Coutts; G. M., Mr. Hal Cummings; A. M., Mr. Chas. McNamara; Assist. M., Mr. Edw. Rochester; Mus. D., Mr. Tom H. Williams.—This week (once nightly): Mrs. Frank Bateman's company in "Which Did She Love?" ("Love—What Then"). The company includes: Fred W. Goddard, Harry Aynsleigh, J. P. Lallen, Hill Cramer, Spry Palmer, Robert Monteigle, W. Bruntesford, H. Priest, Miss Camille Treherne, Miss Kitty Vererose, Miss Maud Taylor, Miss Marion Vyner, Mrs. Frank Bateman. Next week: "Mill Girl and Miner."

GRAND THEATRE.—Sole P., Messrs. David Allen and Sons, Ltd.; L., Executors of the late Fred. Mouillot; R. M., Mr. T. Byrne; Mus. D., Mr. M. F. Hulley.—This week (once nightly, and Saturday matinée, 2.30): Mr. George Edwardes' company present on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, "The Dollar Princess"; and on Friday and Saturday nights, and Saturday matinée, "The Merry Widow." The company includes: Mr. H. Sinclair Cottier, Mr. Tom Redmond, Mr. Clifton Hamilton, Mr. Ripley Evans, Mr. Clifford Seyler, Mr. Ernest Climpson, Mr. George Adams, Mr. William Allision, Mr. Fred Maguire, Miss Carda Walker, Miss Florence Ivy, Miss Hilda Laine, Miss Ivy Durn, Miss Mae Jackson, Miss Marie Kappey, Miss Kathleen Storr, Miss May Lee, Miss Lucie Donati, Miss Freda Large, Miss Effie Mann. T. M., Mr. Clifford Stacey. Next week: "Ready Money."

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Frank Allen; A. M., Mr. G. H. Richardson.—This week (twice nightly): John Terry and Mabel Lambert, impersonators; Lulu Williams, comedienne; Louis J. Seymour, comedian; Cornalla and Eddie, juggler; Jack Warman, comedian; O'Hanlon and Rivkin; Alexandre and Bertie, gymnasts; Vasco, mad musician; and pictures.

SWINDON.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—P., The Wiltshire Entertainments Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Alfred Manners; Mus. D., Mr. E. H. Forman.—This week: Mr. E. Taylor Platt's company, in "Milestones." The company includes: Mr. Gerald Mirrielees, Miss Isabel Fladgate, Miss M. Williams, Mr. J. Farries Moss, Miss Cynthia Burke, Mr. Grahame Herington, Miss Hilda Gregory, Mr. George W. Ruff, Miss Dorothy Hall, Mr. Roy G. Beard, Miss Amy O'Donohoe, Mr. Alex. Clifton, Mr. Frank Rex, and Mr. Charles F. Dixon. T. M., Mr. Grahame Herington. Next week: "King of the Wild West."

TODMORDEN.

OLYMPIA.—L. and M., Messrs. Bennett and Tolfree, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. Albert E. Nicholls; Mus. D., Mr. J. Boden.—This week (once nightly): Will Netta's Jockeys; and pictures. Saturday, twice nightly. Children's matinée, Saturday, at 2.30.

TORQUAY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee & M. D., Mr. W. H. Mortimer; S., Mr. Arthur Pearse.—This week: Mr. Louis Meyer's company in "The Glad Eye." Next week: "The Bear-Leaders."

ELECTRIC THEATRE.—This week: Mr. Owen Brand in songs at the piano.

PAVILION.—P., Torquay Town Council; M., Mr. Austin M. Wilshere.—The Municipal Orchestra, under Mr. Basil Hindenberg, receives support this week from Mr. Sam Hempsall (tenor), Miss Melville Iredale (contralto), and Miss Marie Novello (pianist).

TREHERBERT.

PALACE.—M. D., Mr. C. W. Poole; R. M., Mr. W. A. Totten.—This week: Tony Nelson, equilibrist, assisted by Miss Tilley, sharpshooter; Bert Norman and Will Allen, comedians and dancers; Kitty Stewart, at piano; and pictures. Matinées, Tuesday at 11 a.m., Saturday at 3 p.m.

TREORCHY.

PAVILION.—P., Messrs. Jones Bros.; R. M., Mr. Reg. Mothersill.—This week (twice nightly): Young and Evans, Hebrew comedians; Signor Rubinoff, the Russian baritone; Musical Bentleys, in a musical and patter act; and pictures. Matinée, Tuesday, at 11.

WAKEFIELD.

OPERA HOUSE.—P., Sherwood and Co.—This week: Arthur Hart and Leslie Moreton's company in "The Arcadians." The company includes: Mr. Alf. Selby, Mr. Edward Jefferson, Mr. Walter Elagert, Mr. Lauri Aster, Mr. Hugh Lyndhurst, Mr. George Dinnis, Mr. G. B. White, Mr. Claude Lawson, Mr. Jack Parson, Mr. Horace Nye, Miss Minnie Rayner, Miss L. Crawford, Miss Gladys Gill, Miss Jean Leslie, Miss V. Davies, Miss Laura Laughton, Miss Isabel Butler, Miss Billie Brahme, Miss Ettie Critchley, Miss Alma White, Mr. Jack Page, Mr. Leonard Slater, Mr. C. Warner, Miss Mabel Funstan.

EMPIRE.—P., Sherwood and Co.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Harry Burns presents "Robinson Crusoe." The company includes: Miss Victoria Carmen, Miss Vera Rochdale, Misses Tennis and Laune, Miss Florrie May, Miss Florrie Elliston, Miss Dowety Gordon, Messrs. Stewart and Morris, Mr. Thomas Warne, Mr. Arthur Wilson, Mr. Bernard Cox, Messrs. Jones-Yorke and Wilson, Miss Jenny Morby, Miss Bertha Rogers, Mr. H. Griffiths, Mr. Will Lindsay, Mr. Arthur Aiston.

GRAND ELECTRIC THEATRE.—R. M., Mr. H. Dunnill.—This week (twice nightly): Miss May Newhall, vocalist; Hyman and Millford, dancers; and pictures. Matinées, Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday, at 3.

HIPPODROME.—L., Mr. Sydney Tolfree; A. M., Mr. Harry Heath. — This week (twice nightly): Miss Florence Cooper, vocalist; the Royal Bartle Trio, vocalists and instrumentalists; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.45.

WALLSEND.

BOROUGH THEATRE.—L., Messrs. Black Bros.; M., Mr. George Dunn.—This week: Tiny Arnold, comedienne; J. P. Carrol, soldier tambourinist; the Juggling Geraldos, introducing the illuminated club; and pictures.

TYNE PICTURE THEATRE.—P. & M., Mr. McHarg.—This week: Billie and his Two Broncho Girls, rag-time entertainers; and pictures.

WARRINGTON.

ROYAL COURT.—P., Sir Joseph Beecham; G. M., Mr. A. M. Loader; A. M., Mr. A. L. Warburton.—This week: Mr. Richard Nightingale's company, in "Dick Whittington." The company includes: The Misses Dolly Ross, Gladys Henderson, Susie Marney, May Beaumont, Frances Henderson, Ruth Beaumont, Lillian Devon, Nellie Mascot, and Messrs. J. Goode, Bob Stevens, Billy Vander, Tew and Lea, Barlando, and Fred Preston.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Frank Macnaghten; M., Mr. A. W. Turpin.—Mr. James Kiddie's company is here this week with the pantomime, "Cinderella." The company includes: The Misses Queenie Maya, Lily Ennis, May Grace, Florrie Porter, Bertha Irving, Sophie Pareezer, Bessie Willow, and Messrs. Willie Barratt, Will Kirk, Billy Wesley, Leo Bliss, Edgar Selwyn, and Robert Payne.

WELLINGBOROUGH.

PALACE.—G. M., Mr. W. F. J. Hewitt; R. M., Mr. Joseph Baron; Mus. D., Mr. Herberte Jordan, A.L.C.M.—This week (twice nightly, Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday): Costant Mori, dancer and vocalist; the Cosman Couple, in comedy act; Grant and Kelly, dancers and burlesque boxers. Thursday, Friday and Saturday: Leonard Mortimer and company present "Billy Boy," including Arthur Bawtree, Edward McLean, H. O. Leon, Frank Herald, Ida Clifford, and Leonard Mortimer; Peggy Wyse, rag-time dancer; Paul Bonar, singing fisherman; Gene Morelle; and pictures.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.

GRAND.—L., Mr. Stanley Rogers; A. M., Mr. George A. De Gray and Harry Masterman present J. W. Seaward.—This week (twice nightly): "The Indian Scout." The company includes: Geo. A. De Gray, Max Coutts, David Blair, Tyrone Power, Reginald J. Turner, Dick Crosby, Seymour Perry, Bert Carlton, Jack Soderick, Gerald Conner, Leonard Douglas, Miss Kitty Fitzgerald, Miss Doris Brereton, Miss Etta Turner, Miss Violet Ingram. T. M., G. A. De Gray.

EMPIRE.—M. D., Mr. Richd. Thornton; R. M., Mr. S. Thornton Smurthwaite; Mus. D., Mr. Horace Marshall.—This week: Daley Cooper and Mabel Lait presents "A Man of Spirit"; David Poole, in ventriloquial sketch; and the Brothers St. John in in song and dance; and pictures.

PALACE.—L., Mr. W. G. Alderson; M., Mr. W. Capner; Mus. D., Mr. S. Grahame.—This week: Bertini, piper and campanologist (assisted by Mike, the "dancing fiend"); the Maynards, in "The Lady and the Page"; and pictures.

HORDEN PALACE.—P., Messrs. Oswald and McPherson; M., Mr. Bert Velma; Mus. D., Mr. S. Harvey.—This week: Dave Elliott, blind musical expert; Muriel Dante, illustrated song vocalist; and pictures.

WEST STANLEY.

ALBERT HALL.—L., Mr. Randall Williams; R. M., Mr. G. E. Routledge.—This week (twice nightly): Les Lorraines, instrumentalists; and pictures.

ELITE.—This week: The Four Asters, rag-time dancers; Lynton's Lively Lilliputians; Jack Short, vocalist; Hal and Lil; and pictures.

WEYMOUTH.

PAVILION THEATRE.—M., Mr. W. R. Wallis.—This week: Lena Stanton and Harry Josephs' pantomime, "Cinderella." Cast includes: Lena Stanton, Kitty Kennedy Allen, Marjorie Fraser, Lena Joseph, Ella Doran, Mabel Audrey, the Sisters Delhi, Mabel Elphinstone, Fred Ellis, Jack Bastow, T. Owen Hunter, Jack Hayman, Joe Houten, Little Keeno, and the Leola Troupe.

WIDNES.

CO-OPERATIVE HALL.—L., Messrs. Hamilton and Hughes.—This week (twice nightly): Yacob, performing orang-outang; Howard Innis, entertainer; Bros. Lawler, in singing and dancing act; Harry Drew, Welsh basso; and pictures. Children's Saturday matinée, 2.30.

WIGAN.

ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—P. & M., The Wigan Entertainment Co., Ltd.; Mus. D., Mr. J. Ainscough.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Edwin T. Heys presents "Hindle Wakes." The company includes: Mr. Norman Clark, Miss Nellie Stott, Miss Helena Walbran, Mr. Ernest E. Imeson, Miss Kate Osborne, Mr. Stephen Wentworth, Mr. John Cecil, Miss Madge Trenchard, Miss Margaret Beck. T. M., Mr. Edwin T. Heys. Matinée, Wednesday, at 2.30. Next week: "The Hope" and "The Waltz Dream."

HIPPODROME.—P. & M., The Wigan Entertainments Co., Ltd.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Gar Kiddie presents "Mother Goose." The company includes: Anna Rutland, Bert D'Arcy, James Mooney, Arthur Carlton, Blanche Marion, Bert Bex, Brenda White, Karr and Kooney, Dorothy Dare, Frank Langford, Harry Hughes, Bella Bolton, Ethel Verrette, Mary Williams, Rose Vincent, Clarie Brooke, Constance Salsbury, Winnie Lloyd, Lillie Steurt, Edith Rankin, Madge Roy, Gerty Graham, Hilda Myers, Nellie Parker, Rose Hall. T. M., Mr. Harry Wren. Matinée, Monday, at 2.30. Next week: "The Wearin' of the Green."

WOLVERHAMPTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—G. M., Mr. F. C. Kimberley; Mus. D., Mr. H. Bradley.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Oswald Cray presents "The Mormon and His Wives." The company includes: Mr. Oswald Cray, Mr. Clifton Earle, Mr. William H. Burton, Mr. Henry H. Hughes, Mr. Bert H. Reynolds, Mr. Harold Stevens, Mr. Leslie Howard, Mr. Leonard H. Rooke, Mr. G. W. Wright, Mr. Ernest A. Duval, Mr. Charles Fields, Miss Helen Lowther, Miss Pattie Dene, Miss Aimee Grattan Clyndes, Miss Mamie Reindeer, Miss Sybil Hare.

EMPIRE.—Sole L., Mr. Walter de Frece; M., Mr. H. Ketteman; Mus. D., Mr. Thos. Thursfield.—This week (twice nightly): The Mysterious Lady in Red, soprano; Vera Caine, athlete; Carl Howard, conjurer; the Hammersteins, comedy duo; Stella Stahl, soubrette; Newhouse and Ward Trio, comedy cyclists; and pictures.

WORCESTER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. and M., Mr. Arthur Carlton.—This week (twice nightly): Fred. Karno presents "The Hydro." The company includes: Syd Chaplin, R. J. Hamer, Miss L. Griffen, J. W. Richards, Miss K. Birkbeck, Lennie Dormer, Miss C. Carmen, and W. Chewd; Mlle. Le Breton, gymnast; Cliff Goldin, eccentric comedian; Khrel and Khrel, in "The Dame and Dainty Damsel"; the Albions, duettists and dancers; Harry Clifford, vocal comedian; Dandy Billy, equilibrist; Melt and Bray, knockabout comedians; Juliet Page and Partner, in "Convincing Her Husband"; and pictures.

WORKINGTON.

OPERA HOUSE.—L. & M., Mr. Stanley Rogers; A. M., Mr. Morris Maud.—This week: First three nights, Mr. George Dance's No. 1 company in "The Chocolate Soldier." The cast includes: Messrs. Villiers Arnold, Walter Williams, Harry Barnette, G. Collings, F. C. Page, W. A. Harris, C. H. Hoddy, Harry Crosse, Charles Sims, and Mesdames Florence Hylton, Maggie Gormons, D. E Pritchard, Gladys Gregory, Carrie Scott, and Alice Coverick. On Thursday, Friday and Saturday, Mrs. F. W. Clive's company present "The Outcast of the Family." Cast includes: Mr. Wybert Clive, Theo. Charlton, H. C. Ward, Tom Royden, F. Luard, L. Graham-Hamyn, Herbert Reed, M. Platting, N. Horton, and the Misses F. Beckett, Lily Lewis, Addie Burrows, and E. Melville.

WORKSOP.

KING'S THEATRE.—L., Mr. Cecil E. Clayton and Mr. Frank M. Thomas; R. M., Mr. F. M. Thorne.—This week: Mr. C. H. Lester's company appear in "The Frontier Queen." The company includes: Beatrice Anderson, C. H. Lester, John Talford, and two Indian chiefs, Brown Bear and Eagle Elk.

ROYAL ELECTRIC THEATRE.—R. M., Mr. A. Gibbons.—This week: Messrs. Chester and Lea's Marionettes; and pictures.

WORTHING.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. and M., Mr. C. Adolf Seebold; Mus. D., Mr. Karl Seebold. — This week: "Ways and Means," produced by Messrs. Rutland Barrington and Eustace Burnaby's company. In the cast are Miss Marian Ripley, Miss Delia Drew, Miss Emma Stockley, Miss Olive Wade, Miss Geraldine St. Maur, Miss Isabel Ormonde, Mr. Eustace Burnaby, Mr. Rutland Barrington, Mr. Guy Dawson, Mr. Arthur Ackerman, Mr. Eric Bridgeman, Mr. Richard Trieve, and Mr. F. Lee.

YNYSHIR.

WORKMEN'S HALL.—L., Messrs. Pooles, Ltd.; M., Mr. Fred Terry; Mus. D., Miss M. Gunter.—This week: Mahatma; St. Malo and Coomba; and pictures.

YORK.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. & M., Mr. Percy Hutchison; B. M., Mr. E. W. Silverthorn. This week (once nightly): Mr. Richard Flanagan presents "The Winter's Tale." The company includes: Mr. Norman Partriege, Miss Winifred Duffy, Mr. Charles Stirling, Mr. Sidney Dench, Mr. Harold Thompson, Mr. Tom Fortune, Mr. Wilfrid Beckwith, Mr. James Donatus, Miss Marion Dawson, Miss Louie Bain, Miss Maud Weldon, Mr. Elliven Retlaw, Mr. J. Dorey, Mr. Mr. Marston Clifford, Mr. J. D. Fox, Mr. George Horrocks, Mr. Charles Marcus, Mr. Thomas Edwards, Miss Ponsonby Hartshorn, Miss Edith M. Elvidge, Miss Una Rashleigh, Miss Kathleen Dore, Miss Kathleen Hamilton, Miss Dorothy Shaw. Matinée, Saturday, at 2. Next week: "Bella Donna."

EMPIRE.—M. D., Mr. William Peacock.—This week (twice nightly): Mrs. Wm. Watson's company in "Little Jack Horner." The cast includes: Etty Waldron, Maimie Ellis, Ada Sinclair, May Dinsdale, Olive Sinclair, Maud Naylor, Dorothy Dell, Elsie Slater, Elsie May, Joe Waldron, Frank Cole, Doyle and Massey, Wally Gilbert, Mme. Louie Gilbert, Bert Taylor, J. Hughes, Malcolm Cummings, Billy Waldron. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.

YSTALYFERA.

PLAYHOUSE.—P., Mr. William Coutts; M., Mr. Frank Parsons.—This week (Thursday, Friday and Saturday): "The Sins of the Rich." The company includes: Mr. Edwin Keene, Mr. John Johnson, Mr. Philip Layton, Mr. H. C. Brodie, Mr. W. H. D Brown, Miss Isabel Singleton, Miss Winifred Rutland, Miss Annie Morgan, Miss Mattie Everett, Miss Cecile Rene, Miss E. Crowther, Mr. Ernest R. Abbott, Miss Ida Abbott.

THE BEDFORD.

The current bill at this popular resort contains several favourites, who always receive a hearty welcome. First and foremost is dainty Miss Kitty Colyer, fresh from her pantomime success, and looking more charming than ever in some extremely pretty dresses. Miss Colyer sings three songs, the most taking of which is undoubtedly "You're my baby," though "Susie" has a charm of its own. As usual, though, it is her beautiful dancing which is most acceptable, and Miss Colyer was at her best, and scored a very big success. Harry Champion has songs of a topical nature, touching on rag-time and the Insurance Bill. Williams and Neill are an amusing duo; and Miss Elsie Ellis makes a big hit with her Salvation Army song. Miss Ellis knows how to get every point in a song, and her audience are not slow to appreciate her talent.

A novel turn is that of Mac-Merriss with his comic interlude, "The Tramp and the Aeroplane." The machine is a veritable mechanical marvel, and it proves to be even more remarkable than it first appears, for the Tramp finds endless uses for its component parts, and has much to amuse, his final exit is daring and original. "A Fatal Rehearsal," as played by Belle and Austin, is but a trifle, but still very entertaining and capitally acted by both artistes, who are very popular. Lottie Stone's Four Beautiful Dolls sing of Dixie and their longing to be there and contribute a smart dance which goes well. The Morton Duo have a capital turn; they are not only good comedians, but are vocalists of no mean order, and their duets are a real treat, while their burlesque of opera is a delightful bit of work. Gus Harris goes well with his Piccadilly song, which he sings in his best style.

George M. Marriott and company are presenting "Oliver Twist," and Mr. Marriott is seen to advantage as Fagin, a part he plays with ability. Miss Edith Finlay makes a hit as Nancy; and Miss R. Dane is a good Oliver Twist. Bill Sykes has a clever exponent in Mr. Fred Conway; and Mr. Joe Waters makes a capital Artful Dodger. The sketch is well produced, and is entirely successful.

After the performance of Eustace Gray's Minstrels at the Palladium on Saturday last, Ernest Pitt was presented with a silver matchbox, suitably inscribed, by Mr. Maynard Brown, on behalf of Master Harry Pepper, the young composer of "Sleep." This song had been sung with great success by Mr. Pitt one hundred times up to Saturday last, and in handing over the souvenir Mr. Brown made a few appropriate remarks, which were responded to by the recipient, the affair terminating by the singing of "He's a jolly good fellow."

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FILM GOSSIP.

"The Girl of the Mountains."

This is a Western tale of daring and strategy, full of interest and excitement and finely pictured, released by the Selig Polyscope Co. on March 2. Tess Sutton, the daughter of a miner who is likewise a miser, dutifully dwells with her father by a lonely mountain tarn, where his little mine and flume are located. She is loved by Hank, an uncouth mountaineer, in a primitive way; but her thoughts centre about a young doctor in the far away settlement. He saves her from some embarrassment by calling at her cabin when Hank is an unwelcome visitor, and incurs the everlasting enmity of that bellicose individual. Hank tries to waylay and assassinate his rival, but the girl shows him the other way at the pistol point. The sudden death of her father, and discovery by Hank, allows him to lead a drunken lynching party after the doctor; again the bravery and resourcefulness of the mountain lass comes into play, and they escape by the perilous way of the timber flume. 1,006ft.

"Glimpses of the Thames in Flood."

This is a very interesting and novel picture of fine photographic quality, released by the Hepworth Co. on March 6. It shows the Thames whilst in a very high state of flood. We see the water, which has completely broken bounds, rushing over roads and fields, and converting them into temporary lakes, whilst the trees stand out in a most forlorn manner from unbroken sheets of water. There are some charming views taken at dawn, and also at sunset, whilst some of the most striking pictures show the moon riding in a cloudless sky over the troubled waste of waters. 375ft.

"Crossing the North Sea."

This is a beautiful scene, released by Kineto, Ltd., on March 1, depicting a journey from Christiania to Hull. The seascapes secured during the voyage are remarkable for the clarity of the photography. Christiania is the starting-point of the journey. The passengers having embarked, the vessel slowly steams out of the harbour, wider and wider grows the strip of water between the steamer and the quay, until the land is but a dim outline in the far distance. The steamer's progress across the ocean highway provides the camera with opportunities of obtaining some unique sea pictures, and many interesting scenes on board the vessel itself are shown. Views of the captain on the bridge are given, and of dancing on deck. A remarkable picture is that taken from the deck of the steamer, showing a high sea beating over the vessel's bows. One moment the vessel is riding on the crest of the waves, then it plunges down into the trough. Finally, the arrival at Hull is shown, and the landing of the passengers at the quay. 335ft.

"A Slight Mistake."

Released on Feb. 26 by Pathé Frères, this is a very amusing comedy of three bill-stickers, the first of whom pastes up with much pride a poster reading "Nick Carter. Grand New Story. First Edition given away Free," the word "Free" standing alone on the last line. He leaves his handiwork, and subsequently a second billposter and afterwards a third one, pastes over this bill others, relating respectively to the opening of a new fruiterer's and a wine shop. They do this without noticing that they have not obliterated the last word "Free." The bills therefore read as if they were a general invitation to the public to deal without payment at the fruit and wine shops mentioned. Needless to say, the public is not slow to act upon the invitation, and the fruiterer and the wine merchant are thrown into consternation by finding their establishments denuded of their stock. The police are informed, and ultimately the imbroglio is disentangled by the advent of the first bill-sticker, who falls upon his comrades of the paste-brush on discovering that the aim of his work has been nullified by their finishing touches. 470ft.

"Percy's Express Delivery."

This is a capital comic, released by the Charles Urban Trading Co. on March 5. Percy is engaged as errand boy to a furniture dealer. His master tells him to deliver half a dozen chairs to an address about two miles distant. He hangs the chairs round himself and starts off. A street juggler attracts his attention; he cannot see over the crowd which has gathered, so, piling his chairs one on top of another, he climbs to the top. The erection collapses, and Percy falls into the crowd. A little further on his journey he finds a bicycle, apparently ownerless. He mounts it, still carrying the chairs, and rides down a flight of steps, runs into a carriage, upsets a party outside a restaurant, gets caught on a crane and swung over the river, and at last falls over a weir, where he loses the bicycle and the chairs. Not to be done, he purchases six tiny chairs from a toy shop, and delivers these to the customer—to the latter's intense indignation. 310ft.

La Scala, Edinburgh.

La Scala, built on the site of the famous Princess Theatre, Nicolson-street, Edinburgh, and which Mr. Ralph Pringle has converted into one of the most handsome electric theatres in the country, is now entirely complete, and is to be highly commended for the beautifully artistic scheme of decoration and handsome upholstery appointments. A magnificent crush lounge—the only one in the city—has been added. Dignity and tone reign throughout, and the management, which is in charge of Mr. Tom Robertson. A notable feature is the orchestral music, which in itself is altogether unique in quality. It is certain that the theatre will become a popular resort of the élite, as well as with the general classes.

Mr. A. Ramsden's New Appointment.

Mr. A. Ramsden, the resident-manager of the Industrial Hall, Dewsbury, has been appointed to a similar position at the Teddington (London) Picture Palace, which is on the Bulmer Circuit. During his stay in Dewsbury Mr. Ramsden has been responsible for many improvements at this popular picture hall, the interior having been entirely reconstructed, and new seating accommodation, carried out under his personal supervision and from his own plans, installed.

Electric Picture Palace, Limerick.

The film of the moment here is "The forger," and not one whit less is the popularity of Pathé's Gazette of current events. The singing and dancing turn so capitally rendered by Messrs. Warlock and Willis, is highly appreciated, and the fine moral of the specially coloured dramatic film, "King Robert of Sicily," has led to the public demand on the dual management of Messrs. Ledger and Cutbashe for films of this purport.

Leicester Picture Theatres.

At the Floral Hall Picture Theatre big business continues to be the rule, which is fully warranted by the programmes presented, "The non-commissioned officer," "An elephant on his hands," "Her choice," "Bloomer out of work," "Unique studies of nature," "Pals," and "Don't pinch my pup," being shown.

At the Picture House Mr. R. T. Jupp gives a first-class "show" with "Wreck of the Veronese," "Captain Ben's yarn," "Mama's glove," "A trip round a colliery at Lens," "A elephant on his hands," "Foiling the fire fiends" (Selig), &c.

At the Grand Electric Palace a fine film is seen in a two-reel dramatic production, "A terrible mistake," Selig's drama, "Foiling the fire fiends," "Willie and Bombardier Wells," "Unique studies of Nature," "Old songs and old memories," "The Red Cross nurse," and many others.

Still another picture-house has been opened on the outskirts of Leicester, in the Queen's-road, Clarendon Park, a thickly-populated neighbourhood. It is called the Lyric Picture Theatre, and the management intend catering on up-to-date lines.

By kind invitation of Pyke's Circuit some 300 National Reservists of the Islington Battalion, as well as a number of Boy Scouts, attended on the evening of the 7th inst. the Holloway Cinematograph Theatre, Seven Sisters-road. A number of excellent films and some pleasing music, including 'cello solos by Herr Schurmann and songs by Mr. Pride, were greatly enjoyed. A special feature of the evening's programme was the pictures of the funeral of Pointeman Richard Hobdell, a late local celebrity, and the Reservists' Church Parade at St. James's, Holloway, on the following Sunday. Col. H. C. Savage thanked Pyke's Circuit and Mr. B. R. Strother, the manager of the theatre, for the kindness extended to the National Reservists of Islington, and Mr. Lyon (a director) briefly replied.

NEW MIDDLESEX.

On Monday, Feb. 10, the American Play, entitled "AT CRIPPLE CREEK."

This successful play, written by Hal Reid, was produced here on Monday, and met with an excellent reception. In the part of Joe Mayfield, Mr. Philip Darien did admirably. Mr. Magil Martin rendered valuable service by his impersonation of the Terror of Cripple Creek, Martin Mason. Manuel Alverez was capitally acted by Mr. E. J. Preston. Mr. Wilfred H. Benson gave a fine depiction of the faithful Indian, Wahketah. Ben White, the nigger at Cripple Creek, was quite safe in the hands of Mr. Bryan Daly. Messrs. Charles Barnet, T. Campbell, and Charles Bailey, in the characters of the miners, Davie, Puncher, and Sloggins, were all satisfactory. Reggie Harwood was efficiently portrayed by Mr. Henri Dore. Mr. Jack Bezant was excellent as the Rev. Mr. Wilson. Little Lily Dwyer supplied a clever impersonation of the baby, Little Tatto. A very creditable performance of the part of Maggie Mason, the Pride of Cripple Creek, was contributed by Miss Heba Barlow. Miss Gertrude Godart again proved herself an accomplished actress by her intelligent grasp of the part of Belle Gordon, from New York, the luckiest girl in Cripple Creek. As Sarah Lively, Miss Sarah Walker was well placed. Clever Miss Sybil Etherington played the character of "Dynamite Ann" in splendid style. The entire production was very praiseworthy, the special scenery by Leolyn Hart, the dresses and wigs by John Hyman, and the efficient stage-management of Mr. Charles A. East meriting special eulogy. Mr. Amos Parker's orchestra also deserves recognition.

The earlier part of the evening was devoted to varieties. The Four Wards well deserved the applause gained by their harmony, comedy, and an exceptionally good exhibition of dancing. Mr. Arthur Woodville, comedian, proved entertaining and amusing, and a comic film, "Simple Simon licks the wrong stamp," was shown on the screen by the Bioscope.

Mr. Neil Kenyon supplied a special attraction, presenting a new sketch, entitled

"THE ELDER OF THE KIRK."

written by Mr. Allen Macdonald, and played by him and his company. Described as a slice of Scottish life, this proved a very amusing and well written playlet, introducing some clever Scottish characters. The Elder's son Tom has wedded a Scottish dancer, who meets the father—unaware that she has married his son. They quickly become good friends. The Elder, whilst playing on the bagpipes, with the lady dancing, is observed through the window by the son, who reproaches his father for his levity, and threatens to expose him to the neighbours. The Elder begs him not to do this. Finally all misunderstandings are cleared up, and when it is explained that the young lassie is Tom's wife, the Elder declares that he knew it all the time. The piece was well acted, and should prove a welcome novelty on any variety bill. Mr. Allan Macdonald acquitted himself capitally in the rôle of the Elder; his son, Tom, being satisfactorily interpreted by Mr. Jack Buchanan. The ladies engaged in the production were quite equal to the demands made upon them, Miss Greta Habin, as Molly, and Miss Elspeth Oliphant, in the part of Maggie, being well cast. The piece was heartily applauded on its conclusion.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

"Dramatic and Musical Law," by Mr. A. A. Strong, LL.B., has reached a third edition, and gives in simple language such parts of the law as relate to subjects with which the profession is concerned.—"The Financier."

Mr. Albert A. Strong's valuable work "Dramatic and Musical Law," published at "The Era" Offices, Tavistock-street, has reached its third edition. The author has made every effort to bring the book right up to date.—"Referee," May 15, 1910.

The work succeeds in making plain the thorny legal path that every manager and artist must tread, and by a timely consultation of its pages they may avoid much misapprehension and trouble.—"Star."

Price 5s., post free 5s. 4d. Published at "The Era" Offices, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

The death is announced of the well-known young violinist, Miss Evangeline Anthony, after an operation for appendicitis, at Bonn, Germany, where she was to have appeared at the municipal concert.

A new turn with a high-class vocal and instrumental act is shortly to be presented. It is to be called the Lingham Trio, and includes an expert performer on the xylophone, who is reputed to be able to make that admittedly "wooden" instrument almost speak.

FILMS OF THE MOMENT.

RELEASE DATES.

KINETO, LIMITED.	
Norwegian Young Horses, 255ft.	Feb. 15
Reindeer Hunting in Norway, 275ft.	Feb. 15
A White Man's Way, 1,020ft.	Feb. 20
The Diary of the Duckling, 500ft.	Feb. 27
Fancy Swimming, 260ft.	Mar. 1
Crossing the North Sea, 325ft.	Mar. 1
THE AMERICAN CO.	
The Power of Love, 1,000ft.	Feb. 15
Mrs. Brown's Baby, 610ft.	Feb. 15
The Girl of the Manor, 965ft.	Feb. 19
The Recognition, 1,000ft.	Feb. 22
The Loneliness of Neglect, 1,000ft.	Feb. 22
Another Man's Wife, 992ft.	Feb. 26
Love and the Law, 1,000ft.	Mar. 1
Blackened Hills, 994ft.	Mar. 1
The Fraud that Failed, 995ft.	Mar. 5
The Trail of Cards, 992ft.	Mar. 8
Their Masterpiece, 992ft.	Mar. 8
EDISON FILMS.	
The Foundling, 1,000ft.	Feb. 15
Salt Lake City, Utah, U.S.A., and its Surroundings, 500ft.	Feb. 15
Sally Ann's Strategy, 675ft.	Feb. 15
Tim, 960ft.	Feb. 19
A Doctor for an Hour, 1,000ft.	Feb. 19
The Old Reporter, 1,000ft.	Feb. 22
The Latest Addition to the U.S. Navy, 600ft.	Feb. 22
The Winking Parson, 400ft.	Feb. 22
A Chase Across the Continent, 1,000ft.	Feb. 26
Pat Clancy's Adventures, 1,000ft.	Feb. 26
PATHE FRERES.	
Looking for a Job, 552ft.	Feb. 15
A Matrimonial Breeze, 349ft.	Feb. 15
A Knowing Dog, 625ft.	Feb. 15
A Strange Peacemaking, 716ft.	Feb. 15
To Right the Wrong, 1,621ft.	Feb. 15
Wild Buffalo Hunting in Cochin China, 337ft.	Feb. 15
Playtime in Old Japan, 353ft.	Feb. 15
Why You Should Kill that Fly, 497ft.	Feb. 15
The Honour of his House, 2,058ft.	Feb. 19
Under the Stars and Stripes, 843ft.	Feb. 19
The Magic Goldfish, 800ft.	Feb. 19
Trio Sturla, 413ft.	Feb. 19
Betrayed by a Kiss, 665ft.	Feb. 19
An Amateur Cowboy, 474ft.	Feb. 19
A Market in Kabylia, 319ft.	Feb. 19
The Boy and the Burglars, 664ft.	Feb. 19
The Woes of a Cinematograph Operator, 496ft.	Feb. 22
An Amateur Poisoner, 666ft.	Feb. 22
The Understudy, 472ft.	Feb. 22
The Coming of the Immigrant, 610ft.	Feb. 22
The Orphan, 1,966ft.	Feb. 22
The Crooked Path, 937ft.	Feb. 22
The Ailanthas Silkworm, 521ft.	Feb. 22
PATHE'S ANIMATED GAZETTE.	
For Love is Life, 3,156ft.	Feb. 2[illegible]
GAUMONT CO.	
The Death of Lucrece, 1,120ft.	Feb. 16
The Problems of Aviation, 266ft.	Feb. 16
The Copper's Revenge, 880ft.	Feb. 16
Ascending Mont Blanc, 370ft.	Feb. 16
Incognito, 560ft.	Feb. 16
URBANORA CO.	
A Canine Sherlock Holmes, 1,040ft.	Feb. 19
Dupin Visits Marseilles, 470ft.	Feb. 19
Scenes in the Trossachs, 345ft.	Feb. 19
The Badger, 370ft.	Feb. 19
The Price of a Misdeed, 2,080ft.	Feb. 26
A Trip on the Riviera, 445ft.	Feb. 26
Dupin as a Porter, 450ft.	Feb. 26
SELIG POLYSCOPE CO.	
The Firefighter's Love, 1,005ft.	Feb. 16
Atala, 1,000ft.	Feb. 16
The Triangle, 1,210ft.	Feb. 20
The Hobo's Rest Cure, 992ft.	Feb. 20
Roped In, 1,005ft.	Feb. 20
Friends in San Rosario, 707ft.	Feb. 23
A Question of Hair, 595ft.	Feb. 23
John Colter's Escape, 502ft.	Feb. 23
The Mantle of Red Evans, 1,005ft.	Feb. 23
The Fire Cop, 1,005ft.	Feb. 27
A Freight Train Drama, 1,038ft.	Feb. 27
Miss Aubry's Love Affair, 1,002ft.	Feb. 27
The Girl of the Mountains, 1,007ft.	March 2
WESTERN IMPORT CO.	
A Woman Alone, 1,000ft.	Feb. 15
For the Mikado, 1,000ft.	Feb. 15
The Arab's Bride, 1,000ft.	Feb. 15
A Brother's Requital, 975ft.	Feb. 19
Weary's Revenge, 990ft.	Feb. 19
At the Foot of the Ladder, 1,000ft.	Feb. 19
Two Souls, 1,000ft.	Feb. 19
Bedelia and the Newly Weds, 999ft.	Feb. 22
Cupid on the Job, 758ft.	Feb. 22
Undine, 2,000ft.	Feb. 22
The Brand of Cain, 1,000ft.	Feb. 22
A Message from Niagara, 1,000ft.	Feb. 26
Father, 997ft.	Feb. 26
The Deacon's Shoes, 436ft.	Feb. 26
Two of a Kind, 982ft.	Feb. 26
A Star Reborn, 1,000ft.	Feb. 26
Undine, 2,000ft.	Feb. 22
HEPWORTH CO.	
Hawkeye has to Hurry, 500ft.	Feb. 16
Winning his Stripes, 875ft.	Feb. 20
Love and a Burglar, 650ft.	Feb. 20
Sally in our Alley, 900ft.	Feb. 23
The Prodigal's Return, 875ft.	Feb. 27
Pass It On, 550ft.	Feb. 27
J. FRANK BROCKLISS, LTD.	
The Moth and the Flame, 1,020ft.	Feb. 15
The Wreckers, 919ft.	Feb. 16
A Bronx Cocktail, 310ft.	Feb. 16
The Foster Sister, 449ft.	Feb. 16
The Fugitives, 980ft.	Feb. 20
Well Matched Matrimony, 515ft.	Feb. 20
Wrongly Accused, 1,015ft.	Feb. 20
Obsession, 1,020ft.	Feb. 22
King, the Detective, and the Smugglers, 939ft.	Feb. 23
He had but 50 Cents, 699ft.	Feb. 23
M. P. SALES AGENCY.	
A.B.	
My Hero, 1,007ft.	Feb. 20
When We Were in Our Teens, 475ft.	Feb. 20
Taming a Husband, 986ft.	Feb. 20
A Cry for Help, 1,000ft.	Feb. 23
As the Bells Rang Out, 457ft.	Feb. 23
EMPIRE.	
Trout Fishing in New Zealand, 350ft.	Feb. 23
CABOT.	
The High Ters Valley, 431ft.	Feb. 20
KALEM.	
Pulque, Pete, and the Opera Troupe, 455ft.	Feb. 20
A Daughter's Sacrifice, 1,005ft.	Feb. 20
Rush Hours, N.Y., 545ft.	Feb. 20
The Finger of Suspicion, 1,000ft.	Feb. 23
The Mummy and the Cowpunchers, 560ft.	Feb. 23
The Mayor's Crusade, 985ft.	Feb. 23
WELT.	
The Bay of Cattaro, 311ft.	Feb. 23
B. AND C.	
From Cowardice to Honour, 1,377ft.	Feb. 23
GELEBERT.	
Excursion to Aram Pruma Castle, 436ft.	Feb. 20
LUBIN.	
A Mother's Strategy, 1,014ft.	Feb. 20
A Guilty Conscience, 165ft.	Feb. 20
The Love Token, 1,008ft.	Feb. 20
Palmetto Hat Industry, 345ft.	Feb. 20
Home, Sweet Home, 1,062ft.	Feb. 23
Two Boys, 1,004ft.	Feb. 23
Nora the Cook, 689ft.	Feb. 23
The Power of Silence, 1,936ft.	Mar. 2
H. AND B.	
Norwich, 410ft.	Feb. 23

THE SHOWMAN WORLD

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Monopoly Rights in Fairs.

In view of the extremely important issues at stake vitally touching the show business and its future growth and prosperity in the United Kingdom, we think it wise at the present time to give the history of recent attempts in Parliament made by local authorities to obtain a monopoly of fair rights.

Briefly stated, a monopoly cannot be set up in the United Kingdom, except by Royal grant or charter, or by special Act of Parliament. All the old chartered fairs are Royal grants, and do convey to the possessors of the fair rights valuable powers and special privileges. The law of the land safeguards these extraordinary powers, and the owner of a fair franchise can proceed by injunction to restrain anyone infringing his privileges.

Fairs Under Acts of Parliament.

Parliament by statute has dealt with the abolition of fairs and has given corporations powers by by-laws to secure the good rule and government of fairs. The setting up of new fairs by statute is not encouraged. All that Parliament has done has been to recognise in various corporation Acts already existing fairs, and to endorse the transfer to the local authorities of charter rights and privileges. A considerable number of these transfers by purchase and agreement with the lords of the ancient manors took place a long time before the Guild existed. It is only in quite recent years that the organised showmen have scrutinised and, where necessary, opposed, these transfers to local bodies of ancient manorial rights.

Corporation Want Increased Powers.

Whenever a transfer takes place all the Guild asks is that the showman shall not be in a worse position under the corporation than he was under the lord of the manor. It has only been when the corporation asked Parliament for excessive powers and for summary jurisdiction over and above the old charter rights that the Guild has taken action to oppose the corporation.

Luton the Typical Case.

The Parliamentary counsel for the Guild, the Hon. E. E. Charteris, in the memorable argument before the private Bills Committee in the House of Commons in 1911, called the attention of the Committee to the numerous instances in previous Sessions of Parliament that the organised showmen had (through their Trade Protection Society) successfully opposed similar proposals in local legislation. With regard to fixing or altering the days of the fair, the Bill sought to override the Fairs Act, 1871. We had in the Fairs Act means by which all parties concerned in a proposed alteration of date could be heard. There was, he pointed out, full provision in the general law, both with regard to the abolition of a fair and the alteration of its date. In previous Sessions of Parliament the Corporations of Burton-on-Trent, Swindon, and Penrith had been refused such powers, and he asked the Committee to reject that part of the Bill.

Dealing with the Penalty Clause at considerable length, Mr. Charteris pointed out that similar proposals were disallowed in the Heckmondwike Bill of 1905, Pontefract Bill of 1906, and the Oldham Bill of 1909. It was also important for the Committee to bear in mind that proposals involving similar monopoly rights of holding fairs within their jurisdiction had been refused to the Halifax Corporation, and that other public bodies on the representation of the showmen, through their Society, had voluntarily dropped such proposals from their private Bills.

An Extraordinary Proposal.

It was, he ventured to say, an extraordinary proposal, and one that should be never granted to local authorities—the power to prevent showmen from exhibiting their amusements on private land, or carrying on their legitimate business catering for the general public.

Summing up his general argument, he insisted that it was under the general law and the extremely wide powers enjoyed by corporations to make and enforce by-laws for the good rule and government of fairs, utterly unnecessary that larger powers, or, as his learned friend had expressed it, short cuts in effective local government, should be granted by private Bill legislation.

Above all, he regarded it as a distinct invasion of the liberty now enjoyed by the large body of traders and amusement caterers he represented, of carrying on their business under the ordinary sanctions of the common law, that summary powers and penalties should be enacted against them, as claimed in the Luton Bill.

Under the ordinary law the corporation had full powers for all reasonable and just requirements. If the showmen were a source of annoyance or disturbance to the neighbourhood in which they ventured to carry on their business, both public authorities and private individuals had a remedy at law.

But, and he asked the Committee to mark the enormous difference, whilst under the general law it would be a civil action, under the Luton Bill it would become a criminal offence. In other words, the proposed short cut to make a crime of that which had hitherto been regarded as an occasion for civil proceedings.

The Supreme Importance of the Case.

The main points of the victory intimately concern the whole of the showman community, for this important reason—if corporations or the owners of the franchise of the old fairs of England could obtain an extension of powers and a confirmation of monopoly rights by private Bill legislation, showmen would be face to face with another powerful engine of oppression and suppression.

It is, however, well-nigh impossible for such an injustice to be perpetrated. In addition to the careful scrutiny of private Bills, effective opposition to all penalising proposals, waged by the Showmen's Guild, we have now upon all points of the defence of the showmen's business the support and co-operation of both the Home Office and the Local Government Board.

It is, however, to be noted that this satisfactory condition of affairs is largely the result of the persistent policy of opposition to private Bill legislation seeking extraordinary powers against the show business that has led these great Departments of State to take action in questions affecting the people's rights in the fairs of the country.

The Effect Upon Corporations.

Since the notable victory over Oldham in 1909 the corporations had shown a greater readiness to deal directly with the Showmen's Guild, and the latest example of this better spirit is the case of Aberystwyth that we dealt with in our last issue.

We are glad to be able to announce at the earliest possible moment the peaceful settlement of the questions at issue between the Showmen's Guild and the Corporation of Aberystwyth. In our special article of last week, dealing with prospective Parliamentary matters, we mentioned that the necessary preliminary negotiations with the Corporation of Aberystwyth were left in the hands of the Guild Chaplain and Mr. Henry Studt, Vice-President for Wales.

We now set out in detail the correspondence between the Guild and the Corporation, and as the letters tell their own tale we shall reserve what observations we have to make until the correspondence is set out in full.

Writing on Jan. 25 to the Town Clerk of Aberystwyth, the Guild Chaplain said:—

"DEAR SIR,—Our Parliamentary Agent in scrutinising Private Bills for the Session 1913 reports to us that Clause 39 of your proposed Bill is thus worded: 'No authority, company, or person other than the Corporation shall without the consent of the Corporation hold any market or fair in the district or within a radius of four miles from the town clock in Aberystwyth.'

"Our Parliamentary Trade Defence Committee has requested me to inquire whether the word 'fair' in the clause is meant to cover pleasure fairs or show amusement enterprise upon either public or private land within the radius given.

"We notice in the marginal reference that the word 'fair' is not included, and the Committee having the advantage of the expert advice and opinion of Mr. Henry Studt—the well-known Welsh showman—at their command, have the benefit of his opinion based upon his knowledge of business relations with the Corporation that you do not mean pleasure fairs or showman enterprise. Mr. Studt is of opinion that the clause is only meant to cover 'cattle markets or cattle fairs,' and is not intended to give the Corporation powers in excess of the common law over pleasure fairs or showman enterprise within the given radius.

"We should like your view upon this matter at the earliest possible moment, for should there be any difficulty we desire to deal with it speedily by asking you to arrange an interview with yourself or with the Markets and Fairs Committee.

"The deputation would consist of Mr. Henry Studt, Vice-President of the Guild, and myself, as Organiser and Chaplain.

"Trusting to receive assurances that our apprehensions are groundless,—Faithfully yours,

"T. HORNE.

"To the Town Clerk of Aberystwyth."

The Town Clerk's reply:—

"The Town Clerk's Office, Aberystwyth,

"Jan. 30, 1913.

"Dear Sir,—Referring to your letter of the 25th inst., I shall not be able to reply further until the meeting of the Council, which will be held on the 4th prox., when I shall ask the Council's instructions,—Yours faithfully,

"A. J. HUGHES, Town Clerk.

"Rev. T. Horne, The Showmen's Guild,

"5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C."

The Council's reply:—

Following upon the meeting of the Aberystwyth Council, as announced in the Town Clerk's letter, the following official reply was sent:—

"Town Clerk's Office,

"Feb. 5, 1913.

"Dear Sir,—With reference to your letter of Jan. 25, your informant is correct. The Clause 39 of the Bill which the Corporation are promoting is not intended to apply to pleasure fairs. I am prepared to advise the Corporation to limit the clause to cattle fairs or to insert after the word 'fair' the words 'at which marketable commodities are sold,' if that will satisfy you.—Yours faithfully,

"A. J. HUGHES, Town Clerk.

"Rev. T. Horne, 5, Tavistock-street,

"Strand, London, W.C."

The Guild's reply:—

In his reply on behalf of the Guild executive the Rev. T. Horne expressed satisfaction with the definition of terms as given in the previous letter and expressed the opinion that it would avoid all possible doubt and confusion in the future if the Corporation would add the words, "This clause shall not apply to either pleasure fairs or to showman enterprise within the radius given."

It will be thus seen from the official correspondence that matters are in full train for a perfectly satisfactory agreement with Aberystwyth. The other Parliamentary matters, all of them of minor importance, will be dealt with effectively through the good offices of the Local Government Board or the Home Office.

The Guild executive will not fail to call attention to the objectionable clauses as they come before Parliament.

Guild subscriptions, 1913:—Mrs. J. R. Haines, 10s. 6d.; Mr. C. H. Duffield, 10s.

1912 subscriptions:—Per Mr. Wm. Wilson, Mr. W. Taylor, 5s.; Mr. J. Edwards, jun., 5s.; Mr. J. Bond, 5s.; Mr. A. Taylor, jun., 5s.; Mr. N. Shaw, 5s.; Mr. A. Ott, 5s.; Mrs. S. Edwards, 5s.

Per Mr. John Proctor:—Mr. A. Brinkley, 5s.; Mr. J. Hesseldine, 5s.; Mr. J. Squires, 5s.; Mr. G. Cashmore, 5s.; Mr. E. Jowett, 5s.

Retirement of Mr. T. Hurst.

Mr. Thomas Hurst has definitely retired from the show business, the whole of his interest in the various fairs on his circuit being transferred to his son, Mr. Norman Hurst.

This decision on Mr. Hurst's part will, as was pointed out at the London meeting of the Guild, leaves a blank place at Guild meetings that few men can hope to fill. No one has worked harder or done more effective work in the Trade Defence movement in showland than Mr. Hurst, and we tender to him on his retirement all our best wishes for his success and happiness. All communications on the work of the society must now be sent to the Guild secretary, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, London, W.C.

Proposed Abolition of Stafford Fair.

At Stafford Town Council meeting on Thursday, Feb. 7, suggestions were made for abolishing the statute fairs held in the market square in May and at Christmas. A petition had been received from residents, tradesmen, and others in or near the market square urging the discontinuance of the fairs. The Markets Committee had no recommendation to make on the matter, and left it in the hands of the Town Council for them to decide.

Alderman Bridgwood asserted that the fairs were doing little good, and contended that they ought to do away with them. They were a great nuisance to vehicular traffic. An enterprising man could keep them on as well in a field.

Councillor Finney, who pointed out that only three of the petitioners lived in the market square, hoped they would not remove such an ancient institution, which gave legitimate enjoyment to the children of the town.

The Town Clerk said the council could move the fairs to another place by resolution, but they could only abolish them by petition to the Home Secretary.

Eventually it was decided to refer the matter back to the Markets Committee with a view to a new site being found.

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NEW PLAYS OF THE MONTH.

LONDON.—JANUARY.

'Padlock Domes; or, Who Stole the Japanese Paper Basket," skit, by Charles Leftwich; Rehearsal, Jan. 7.
The Swing of the Pendulum," play, in one act, by Lilian Bamberg (amateurs); Cripplegate Theatre, Jan. 9.
'General John Regan," Irish comedy, in three acts, by George A. Birmingham (Rev. J. O. Hannay); Apollo, Jan. 9.
'King Lear," Yiddish version of Shakespeare's tragedy; Pavilion, Jan. 10.
"Topsy-Turvydom," childish play, including lyrics, by Dora Critchett (amateurs); St. Gabriel's Parish Hall, S.W., Jan. 11.
"The Princess and the Gipsies," fairy play for children from eight to eighty, by Ruth Myers, lyrics by Ruth Myers and Charity Myers (amateurs); St. Gabriel's Parish Hall, S.W., Jan. 11.
"Get-Rich-Quick Wallingford," farce, in four acts, by George M. Cohan, adapted from the stories by George Randolph Chester (originally produced in America); Queen's, Jan. 14.
"Billy's Fortune," comedy, in three acts, by Roy Horniman; Criterion, Jan. 16.
'Turandot, Princess of China," Chinoiserie, in prose and verse, in three acts, by Karl Vollmöller, English version by Jethro Bithell, music by Ferruccio Busoni; St. James's, Jan. 18.
"At the Mercy of the Mormons," drama, in three acts, by Edwin George; Theatre Royal, Woolwich, Jan. 20.
"Heartless Mr. Jones," comedy, in two acts, by Winifred St. Clair (amateurs); Brixton Unitarian Church, Jan. 20.
"Two of the Odd Boys," play, in one act, by Winifred St. Clair (amateurs); Brixton Unitarian Church, Jan. 20.
"Esther Castways," play, in four acts, by Jerome K. Jerome; Prince of Wales's, Jan. 21.
"The Headmaster," comedy, in four acts, by Wilfred T Coleby and Edward Knoblauch; Playhouse, Jan. 22.
"In Haarlem There Dwelt ——," music drama, in four pictures, by Dora Bright, from a story by Pieter Van Der Meer (originally produced at His Majesty's, May 21, 1912—matinée); Playhouse, Jan. 22.
"The Link," play, in one act, by August Strindberg, translated by Edwin Bjorkman (Century Play Society); Arts and Dramatic Club, Clavier Hall, Jan. 26.
"The Land of the Free," play, in one act, by Bertha M. Graham; Cosmopolis Theatre, Jan. 27.
"The Japanese Curio," musical play, by Mrs. A. C. Bunten; Lyceum Club, Piccadilly, Jan. 28.
"Thorns," Yiddish drama, by A. Doniach; Pavilion, Jan. 28.
"Der Rosenkavalier," comedy, for music, in three acts, libretto by Hugo von Hofmannsthal, music by Richard Strauss, originally produced at Dresden, Jan. 26, 1911; Covent Garden, Jan. 29.

PROVINCES.

"All Square," Western play, in one act, by Captain Frank H. Shaw; Opera House, York, Jan. 6.
"Elders' Hours," Scotch comedy sketch, by Robert J. Maclennan; King's Theatre, Portsmouth, Jan. 6.
"An Unknown Quantity," farcical comedy, by Lady Kathleen Hastings (amateurs); Conservative Hall, Nuneaton, Jan. 9.
"Ways and Means," comedy, in three acts, by J. Storer Clouston; New Theatre, Oxford, Jan. 13.
"The Other Lady," farcical comedy, in three acts, by George Elton; West Pier Theatre, Brighton, Jan. 13.
"Lucky Miss Chance," musical play, in three acts, written and composed by W. T. Ivory and Kenneth Morrison; Alexandra Theatre, Pontefract, Jan. 13.
"The Price of Silence," drama, in four acts, by Alexander J. Haviland; Royal Palace Theatre, Ramsgate, Jan. 13.
"Iris of the Rainbow," early Victorian fantasy, in two acts, by Gwen Norwood (amateurs); Town Hall, Rickmansworth, Jan. 15.
"The Return of Columkille," play, in two acts (Irish Historical Players); Hibernian Hall, Dublin, Jan. 15.
"Captain Chris," drama, in three acts, by John Johnson and Dagney Major (Hildenborough Village Players); Hildenborough Drill Hall, Jan. 21.
"The Dean of St. Patrick's," play, in four acts, by G. Sidney Paternoster; Abbey Theatre, Dublin, Jan. 23.
"Tantalizing Terpsichore," dancing comedy episode; Court Theatre, Brighton, Jan. 27.
"The Ladies of Baghdad," Oriental comic opera, in two acts, written and composed by Arthur Stanley Gill (amateurs); Nottingham Mechanics' Large Hall, Jan. 27.
"The Son and Heir," play, in four acts, by Gladys Unger; Devonshire Park Theatre, Jan. 27.
"The Golden Bell," musical comedy, by Captain Stacey, music by Mr. Paul Pym (amateurs); Watson Memorial Hall, Tewkesbury, Jan. 27.
"The Error of His Way," comedietta, by Miss Gibbons (amateurs); Watson Memorial Hall, Tewkesbury, Jan. 27.
"Goggles," farcical sketch, in one act, by E. B. Norman; Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool, Jan. 28.

PARIS.

"La Main mystérieuse," play, in 3 acts, by Fred. Amy and Jean Marsèle; Athénée, Jan. 9.
"Alsace," patriotic play, by Gaston Leroux and L. Camille; Réjane, Jan. 10.
"La folle Enchère," comedy, 3 acts, by Lucien Besnard; Renaissance, Jan. 14.
"L'Epate," comedy, 3 acts, by Alfred Savoir and André Picard; Fémina, Jan. 24.
"Les Eclaireuses," play, 4 acts, by Maurice Donnay; Marigny, Jan. 26.
"On ne peut jamais dire," comedy, 4 acts, by Bernard Shaw, translated by A. and H. Hamon; Théatre des Arts, Jan. 28.
"Le Sortilège," fairy story, 3 acts and 6 tableaux, by Maurice Magre and André Gailhard; Opéra, Jan. 29.
"La Cocotte bleue," vaudeville, 4 acts, by Emile Herbel; Cluny, Jan. 31.

BERLIN.

"Der gute Ruf," four-act comedy, by H. Sudermann; Deutsches Schauspielhaus, Jan. 7.
"Majolika," farce, in three acts, by MM. Stein and Haller; Des Westens, Jan. 7.
"Wieland der Schmied," three-act opera, by Kurt Hoesel; Deutsches Opernhaus, Jan. 7.
"Der heilige Antonius," vaudeville-operetta, in three acts, by Siegfried Nicklass-Kempner; Montis Operetten Theater, Jan. 11.
"Schoene Frauen," three-act comedy, by Etienne Ray; Deutsches Chamber Plays, Jan. 11.
"Die Studentengräfin," three-act operetta, by Leo Fall; Des Westens, Jan. 18.
"Das Prinzip," comedy, in three acts, by Hermann Bahr; Lessing, Jan. 18.
"Wenn Frauen reisen," four-act farce, by MM. Mouezy-Eon and Nancey; Trianon, Jan. 18.
"Stella Maris," opera, in three acts, by Alfred Kaiser; Kurfürsten-Oper, Jan. 18.
"Astrid," drama, in four acts, by Eduard Stucken; Deutsches, Jan. 24.
"Wieselchen," three-act comedy, by Leo Lenz; Royal Schauspielhaus, Jan. 25.
"Und hätte der Liebe nicht," four-act drama, by MM. Krickelberg and Ritterfeldt; Luisen, Jan. 26.
"Kerkyra," play, in two pictures, by Joseph Lauff; Royal Opera, Jan. 27.
"Der Retter in der Not," comedy, in three acts, by MM. Franz von Schönthan and Rudolf Presber; Komödienhaus, Jan. 30.

"Twelfth Night" reached its 100th performance at the Savoy on Wednesday. Mr. Granville Barker's artistic production gives every indication of delighting the Londoners for many months to come.

Mr. Will Harman, whose death we announced last week, and whose funeral took place on Saturday at Nunhead, was the son of Mr. Billy Harman, of that talented burnt cork combination, Harman, Elston and Campbell, "the Music Hall Christys." Among his numerous successes were Daniel Grab in "The English Daisy," the Admiral in "The French Maid," Mr. Pineapple in "The Chinese Honeymoon," Ebenezer Honeycomb in "The Gay Parisienne," and Tweedlepunch in "Florodora." The widow and son wish to tender their sincere thanks for the numerous letters of sympathy and floral tributes from his professional and private friends.

THEATRICAL LAW.

MR. HAMMERSTEIN'S EXPENSES.

Before Mr. Justice Pickford and a special jury in the King's Bench Division on Monday an action was brought by Madame Alme Andrivean, French operatic singer, professionally known as Madame Vallandri, against Mr. Oscar Hammerstein, of the London Opera House, to recover damages for an alleged breach of contract. Defendant denied the alleged breach.

Mr. A. M. Latter and Mr. F. D. Livingstone appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. Compston, K.C., Mr. M'Cardie, and Mr. St. J. Field for the defendant.

Mr. Latter, opening the case, said the plaintiff was a French lady who had established a great reputation as an operatic singer on the Continent. In June, 1911, the defendant was desirous of engaging a company for the London Opera House, and he went to Paris to hear the plaintiff sing. Eventually a contract was entered into by which the plaintiff agreed to sing at the London Opera House for five months, from Nov. 13, 1911, at a salary of 5,500 francs (£220) a month. The plaintiff undertook to sing in French and Italian, and to perform on Sundays if required to do so. There was a clause in the contract to the effect that if the Opera House was closed through public calamity, fire, insufficiency of receipts, &c., the plaintiff's salary would not be paid until the performances were resumed.

The plaintiff performed at the London Opera House from Nov. 13, 1911, to the end of the following February, when she saw in the lobby reserved to the artistes a notice that the defendant proposed to close the Opera House, as he wanted to prepare for the summer season. The plaintiff had an interview with the defendant, who asked her if she would cancel her contract if he paid her £100, or whether she would consent to return to the Opera House in April and conclude her engagement. The plaintiff declined to accept the £100 or to return in April. When she got home plaintiff received a letter from the defendant stating that his reason for closing the Opera House was that the receipts were insufficient to meet the expenses.

During the six weeks the Opera House was closed for performances rehearsals took place. There was a clause in the agreement that if one of the parties annulled the contract compensation to the total amount of the salary for the year should be paid. That meant, according to the custom of the profession, that the plaintiff was entitled to her salary for five months, in addition to the amount she had been paid. The questions for the jury (concluded counsel) were whether the receipts were insufficient to meet the expenses, and whether the Opera House was closed for that reason.

Madame Andrivean was called, and gave evidence through an interpreter in support of the opening statement of counsel.

In cross-examination, witness said that some of the French artistes returned to the Opera House when it was reopened in April. She could not say if 300 persons were engaged in the production of the operas. She had heard that actions had been brought against the defendant by Messrs. Ansilli and Cherubine, but she did not know whether they had been withdrawn.

This closed the case for the plaintiff.

Mr. Compston, for the defendant, submitted that his client had power to annul the contract if the receipts were not sufficient to meet the expenses. When the defendant discovered that his losses amounted to £19,000 he acted as a sensible business man, and closed the Opera House. He knew nothing of the offer of the defendant to pay the plaintiff £100 if she would consent to rescind her contract. Unfortunately, the defendant was unwell in New York, and he could not be present.

Mr. R. Butt, general-manager for the defendant, stated that the season at the London Opera House commenced on Nov. 13, and ran until March 2.

Mr. Compston: What was the result of the season?—It was a great financial failure.

Were the takings at the Opera House in any way sufficient to pay the outgoings?—No. The loss was over £1,000 a week, and the defendant decided to close the place at the end of February. The Opera House was reopened in April, after guarantees had been obtained, and the performances ran until July 13. The summer season was also a failure.

In cross-examination, the witness said the defendant could not speak French.

Mr. Latter: Could he say, "I will offer you 2,500 francs?"—He may get as far as that, but then he would fall. (Laughter.)

In further cross-examination, the witness said that in the statement of accounts £200,000 was charged to capital. He thought they were entitled to charge £151,000 for buildings, and over £70,000 for productions. On a theatrical speculation he thought that 15 per cent. interest ought to be paid on capital.

Mr. Justice Pickford: Do you say that under the contract if you do not make 15 per cent. you are entitled to stop?—That is my opinion.

Witness, continuing, alluded to an English opera which it was arranged to produce at the Opera House, and said the production was paid for by the gentleman who wrote it. He believed that £8,000 was paid for production, £8,000 was guaranteed, and a further £8,000 was advanced on a second mortgage.

Mr. Lyle D. Andrews, the defendant's business manager in England and America, gave similar evidence.

Mr. W. H. Dunn, chartered accountant, stated that he had prepared a statement showing the receipts and expenditure for the 16 weeks ending March 2, 1912. The box-office receipts amounted to £31,866, and subscriptions to £1,648, making a total of £33,514. The total expenditure was about £53,000, including £27,542 for salaries of artistes, orchestra, &c.

In cross-examination, the witness said he had not included in his statement of account the item £80 per week for which the bars, &c., were let. He thought that sum was wiped out by the cost of the opening supper.

Mr. Latter: How much did the opening supper cost?—Over £1,000.

Witness, in further cross-examination, said that for the five weeks prior to March 2 the takings showed an upward tendency.

Mr. Barton M'Guckin, the well-known singer, stated that he was engaged by the defendant to perform at the London Opera House. He remembered the notice which was posted at the Opera House. It did not state that the reason for closing the place was that the defendant wished to prepare for the summer season.

Mr. Justice Pickford said he did not think that the clause, which stated, in effect, that if the contract was annulled, five months' salary should be paid applied to this case.

The jury, without leaving the box, found for the defendant.

Judgment was given accordingly, with costs.

Du Maurier's masterpiece, "Trilby," with Mr. Charles Garry as Svengali, is to be staged at the New Middlesex next week. The variety section will include Ando's Japs, equilibrists and entertainers; C. J. Johnson, the "black diamond"; and Fifi Ronay and her educated comedy toy poodles.

The engagement of Mr. and Mrs. Graham Moffat at the Alhambra, Glasgow, in "A Scrape o' the Pen," proved an enormous success last week, and an extra matinée had to be given. The week's drawings would be over £2,000.

A PLAYWRIGHT ENTERTAINED.

One of Walsall's most celebrated sons, Mr. George Broadhurst, the famous "American" playwright, was entertained at a complimentary dinner at the Stork Hotel, Walsall, on the evening of the 6th inst. The Mayor (Councillor Venables) presided, with the guest of the evening on his right.

The Rev. Preb. Paice proposed "Our Guest."

Mr. Broadhurst, who was greeted with the singing of "For he's a jolly good fellow," said that in America they had a famous comedian named Nat Goodwin, who some years ago went to Australia, and on one occasion some men were asked if they would like to see the famous comedian. The reply was, "I have been talking this thing over, and we don't mind." He had, of course, done newspaper work, and he had written some verse. When he had made up his mind that he could write a play he was rather proud of this. He would go and see the first act of a play, and then go home and work out what he thought the other three acts ought to be. Towards the end of the week he would go and see how his three acts compared with those in the play. He had written a good number of plays, most of them farces. He was advised that once the people made up their minds that he was a funny man he was no good. He stopped writing serious farces, and for four years he did not get a production because he did not do that. In America, at least, they accepted his serious works, but the fact that "Bought and Paid For" succeeded in America was no criterion that it would succeed here. They had seen so many examples of his plays succeeding over there and failing over here, and vice versa. They wrote their plays and brought them to the market. If they were not bought they went on their way—he did not say rejoicing. In the pictures in the gallery of his remembrance that night would long hang upon the line.

"It is perhaps not entirely useless," says the "Cambridge Review," "to draw attention once again to the contemptible behaviour at the theatre of certain members of the University. On Monday, Jan. 27, one of the gentlemen acting in 'The Amazons' was obliged to break off and explain that the performance could not continue unless the constant interruptions by certain sections of the audience ceased. On the following Wednesday the same company were insulted by the rudeness of a few undergraduates. The indecent comments of these young men were only silenced by the appearance in the last act of an attendant at the end of the row in which they were seated. At musical comedies such behaviour is deplorable, but more excusable, since the noise is apparently general and expected. But it is intolerable that any few unprincipled young persons should contstitute themselves the critics of the performance and allow no more than they wish to be heard by the audience. Such people should remember that they can very easily be identified by inquiry at the college whose gown they wear, and the consequence of detection would be scarcely worth the notoriety. Public opinion, we hope, will do much to discourage such rowdiness. In the meantime, apologies are due to the theatre management, to the townsmen in the audience, and to the dramatic companies who visit the New Theatre."

After a merry and successful run of nine weeks, the Edinburgh Royal's pantomime of "Sinbad" finishes its career on Saturday night. As usual, Mr. Whitehead, the manager, has chronicled "another Royal record" for the "house." In many respects—the quality of the company, the new scenic devices, the beautiful "sets," and the innovations of a donkey and clever juveniles—"Sinbad" has gone "home" brilliantly and effectively. Of course, next Saturday will find audience and artistes on the best, if noisest, of terms, but the latter, it is safe to state, leave with the pleasantest of memories of proprietors and public.

Mr. Graham Moffat, the author of "Bunty Pulls the Strings," was the plaintiff in an application in the Paisley Sheriff Court on Wednesday for an interdict against Mr. Geo. H. Kemp, the Pavilion Theatre, Johnstone. Mr. J. Jeffrey Hunter, who appeared for the pursuer, stated that interdict was asked against the production of a play called "The Hole in the Wall," which was really a version of Mr. Graham Moffat's very successful play, "The Concealed Bed in the Parlour." Defender had produced it at Johnstone on Jan. 20, and it was alleged that he had allowed it to be also produced at other towns. He (Mr. Hunter) had had a call from defender, and was satisfied that that gentleman had been misled by the producer of the piece, and would not repeat the infringement. In reply to the Sheriff Mr. Kemp said that Mr. Hunter's statement was quite correct. He apologised to Mr. Moffat for the infringement, and undertook that it would not be repeated. The Sheriff instructed Mr. Kemp to lodge a minute embodying his verbal undertaking, and granted perpetual interdict against him, with expenses.

The Great Eastern Musical Society held its twenty-eighth concert on Wednesday, Feb. 5, in the Hamilton Hall of the Great Eastern Railway Hotel. With a choir numbering ninety and an orchestra of ninety-three, Mr. William Johnson Galloway has worked wonders. The concert opened with the orchestra's rendering of Sullivan's incidental music to "Henry VIII.," which was followed by the choir in McDowell's part-songs, "Love and time" and "War song." Miss Gertrude Blomfield then sang charmingly Michaela's song from "Carmen," accompanied by the orchestra. The orchestra next played "Hadyn's Symphony No. 2 in D," after which Miss Marie Novello and the orchestra played Liszt's "Hungarian Fantasia for Pianoforte and Orchestra." The first part of the programme finished with Dr. Lyon's choral ballad, "The warden of the Cinque Ports," in which the choir and orchestra both scored. The second part of the programme was up to the high standard expected from this hard-working band of musicians.

A lively Bohemian concert was given in the Albert Halls, Glasgow, on Tuesday night. Organised by the chorus of the Theatre Royal pantomime (the Royal Octette), they had secured Mr. Billy Merson as chairman, and a great array of talent from the Royal and other theatres. When the concert commenced at midnight the hall was crowded with an audience evidently bent on enjoying themselves. At the chairman's table were many of the principals from the Royal, and Mr. Harry Ashton, manager, was accompanied by Mr. Alfred Barnard and Mr. Edgar G. King of "The Era," and our Glasgow representative. Miss Ivey Latimer sang "My Hero" and Tosti's "Good-bye" in excellent style, and Miss Edith Williams was equally successful with "Annie Laurie." Mr. Leonard Barry gave several songs, including "The moucher's walk." Mr. Billy Merson also contributed liberally, and Mr. Claude Dunbar made a hit with the recitations, "Gungadene" and "The Dandy Fifth." Miss Olive Holland took well in two imitations of Miss Beth Tate; Mr. Harry Bickley, from the Pavilion, delivered his amusing lecture on "Wild Beasts"; and Mr. J. H. M'Cann, Mr. Styles, and the M'Farlane Bros. all gave enjoyable items. When our contingent left at 2 a.m. there were still many interesting turns due to appear.

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James Bell.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for Sept. 29. Oct. 6. onwards, with exceptions.
Next Season's Bookings include:—
Mr. George Edwardes' Companies, "Bunty Pulls the Strings" (return), "Princess Caprice," "Hindle Wakes" (third visit), "The Girl in the Taxi," "Milestones," &c., &c.
Address, Charles Revill, T.R., Stockport.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Companies.
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER. WANTED,
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER. STAR
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER. ATTRACTIONS
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER. FOR
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER. THE
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER. FOLLOWING
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER. DATES,
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER.
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER.
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER.
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER.
Vacant, March 17, 31, May 5, June 2, 9, and 30, onward, with exceptions.

EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.
(Arrangements complete.)

THEATRE ROYAL, TONYPANDY.
Early Spring Vacancies.

NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
Early Spring Vacancies.

KING'S ELECTRIC THEATRE, BARRY.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.
(Arrangements complete.)

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
Early Spring Vacancies.

"CINDERELLA."
Wanted large Theatre to produce "Cinderella" next season.
Wanted, to Let, on Royalty, for Stock Season or Tour, several Important Dramas, including "The Prairie Flower," "Our British Empire," &c., &c.
All communications to
Arthur Carlton, Ravenscourt, Worcester.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson.
WANTED, First-class Attraction for March 10 (?), April 7, and the three nights commencing April 21. Bookings for the spring of 1913 include the following: "Brewster's Millions," "The Queen Mother," F. R. Benson Company, "The Arcadians," "Babes in the Wood," "Cinderella," "The Glad Eye," "The Chocolate Soldier," "The Silver King," "Man and Superman," "The Girl in the Train," "The Speckled Band," and "The Count of Luxembourg." Applications for dates to Hugh Robertson, T.R., Jarrow.

WANTED, First-class Attractions only.
T.R., DUBLIN, April 7.
G.T., DUBLIN, May 19.
O.H., BELFAST, March 17, 24, May 12 (?), 19, 26.
O.H., CORK, April 28, May 5 (?).
G.T., SWANSEA, May 19, June 16, 23, 30.
G.T., SOUTHAMPTON, May 5 (?).
T.R., BOURNEMOUTH, March 17.
P.P.T., BRIGHTON, Feb. 24 (?), April 7, 21, 28, May 5.
HIPPO., DARLINGTON, April 14, and good twice-nightly Drama, new to Darlington, June to Aug.
Apply, The Fredk. Mouillot Offices,
1, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

METROPOLE, GLASGOW, LTD.
WANTED, "crowd" attracting Plays, July 21, 28, Dec. 1, 15, 22, and various 1914.
Address, Arthur Jefferson, 132, Charing Cross-rd, London. Wires, "Aitenev-Ox, London." 'Phone, Regent 1480.

GAIETY, DUNDEE, LTD.
Managing-Director Henry C. Cavanah
WANTED, twice-nightly Drama, March 10, 31, various on.
Address (dates only),
Arthur Jefferson, 132, Charing Cross-road, London.
Wires, "Aitenev-Ox, London." 'Phone, Regent 1480.

SHAKESPEARE THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
SHAKESPEARE THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, Powerful Attractions, Powerful Attractions, for
Weeks of March 3 and April 28.
Weeks of March 3 and April 28.
Wire or write to W. W. Kelly,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, CARLISLE.
Lessee and Manager, Sidney Bacon.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, March 10 (?) and Oct. 20, on.
Bookings include:—Carl Rosa Opera Co., "Bunty Pulls the Strings," "The Glad Eye," "The Chocolate Soldier," "Milestones," &c.
Address: Sidney Bacon, 143, Charing Cross-road, London, W.C.
Telephone, 1456 Gerrard. Telegrams, "Nocabdis-Ox-London."

THEATRE ROYAL, MIDDLESBROUGH.
The great success of the twice-nightly Houses.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic Attraction for March 17 (open Good Friday), and March 24 (Easter week).
All coms. to J. Chas. Imeson, as above.

WANTED, High-class Attractions,
March 3, D.P.T., Eastbourne.
March 10, Coronet (Star Company).
March 17, Eastbourne and Ipswich.
Easter, Eastbourne and Hastings (Musical Comedy preferred).
March 31, Hastings, Tunbridge Wells.
Apply, H. W. Rowland Coronet Theatre, W.

WANTED, Pantomimes, 1913-4.
Fulham Theatre, S.W., Dec. 23 to Jan. 17.
Ipswich, Dec. 26 to Jan. 10 (with 5 Mats.).
Apply, H. W. Rowland, Coronet Theatre, W.

NEW THEATRE, DUMFRIES.
WANTED, Companies, Drama (not melodrama), Farcical Comedy, and Musical Comedy. Three nights only. Seats 1,200. Well equipped stage, 20ft. deep, 40 wide; pros. opening 25; fly 22ft. cloths.
Apply, John Darlison, General-Manager.

BRIXTON THEATRE, S.W.
WANTED, Attraction, March 3, 17, and on.
Fredk. Melville, Lyceum Theatre, W.C.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BARNSLEY.
Managing-Director, Mr. Will Smithson.
WANTED, good Musical Comedies and Dramatic Attractions. Nothing but first-class companies entertained.

SHODFRIARS' HALL, BOSTON.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. Harold H. Dodds.
Easter, Easter, Easter, Easter.
WANTED, Strong Attraction for Easter Monday and Tuesday, also for Boston Fair dates (May 5, 6, and 7).
Should take big money during the Fair with Musical Comedy. Also Wanted, Comedy or Musical Comedy (2 nights) weeks of March 31, April 7, and 14. Bookings in conjunction with New Arcadia Theatre, Skegness (2 nights Boston, 1 night Skegness).
Monday and Tuesday are my best nights.

THE PIER AND GRAND PAVILION, COLWYN BAY.
WANTED, a Special Attraction, 2 nights, Aug. 1, 2. A few excellent dates vacant for No. 1 theatrical companies latter part of September and October.
W. Yates Gregory, General-Manager.

WANTED, Attractions, Feb. 24 and March 10, Weymouth.
Wire, Charlton Mann, Adelphi Theatre, W.C.

GRAND THEATRE, HULL.
WANTED, May 26, June 9, June 23, for Musical or other High-class Attractions.
Address, W. Morton,

COMPANIES WANTED.

GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic Attractions only, for the above popular Drama Theatre, as follows:—
April 7,
April 14,
April 21,
May 19,
May 26,
Aug. 4,
Aug. 11,
Aug. 18,
and on, with exceptions.
Write, with full particulars, Moss' Empires, Ltd., Cranbourn-street, London, W.C. Envelopes marked "Theatres."

SEVEN PROGRESSIVE THEATRES.
WANTED, High-class Companies.
CORONET THEATRE, LONDON, W.
March 10, April 21, May 12, 19, June 2, 23.
FULHAM THEATRE, S.W.
March 17, 31, April 14, onwards.
DEVONSHIRE PARK T., EASTBOURNE.
March 3, 17, 24, April 7, 21, 28.
GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS.
March 3, 24, 31, April 28, May 12.
PLEASURE GARDENS, FOLKESTONE.
March 6 (3), April 16 (3), 21 (3), 28.
OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS.
March 31 to May 12.
LYCEUM THEATRE, IPSWICH.
March 17, April 21 (?), May 5 (3), 19, 26.
Apply, H. W. Rowland, Coronet Theatre, W.

MORTON POWELL THEATRES.
WANTED, Wanted, Powerful Plays.
BRITANNIA THEATRE, LONDON.
Spring Dates.
BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Spring.
QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH.
Feb. 17 through disappointment.
March 3, 10, 17.
Morton Powell, Britannia Theatre, London.

WANTED, Pretoria, Okehampton; holds 300 (main line, Exeter-Plymouth); scenery, piano, electric light; 65 per cent. to 80 per cent. Tel. address, "Vide," Okehampton.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SWINDON.
WANTED, First-class Productions, Musical Comedy, Drama, or Variety, April 7, 14, May 19, 26, June 9, 16, onwards, with exceptions. Also good Musical, Dramatic, or Variety Productions, for Garrison Theatre, Tidworth, Feb. 17, 24, on.
Address, Alfred Manners, Empire Theatre, Swindon.

THE NEW RINK THEATRE, WREXHAM.
Now open for staging the first productions.
Stage, 50 by 40. Pros. opening, 30ft.
Bookings for Summer and Autumn.
WANTED, First-class Companies only. Write
W. Wood Winstanley, Manager,
Re dates, &c.

GRAND THEATRE, LLANDUDNO.
EASTER, Four Nights.
WANTED, Good Attraction, not Drama, for this very good date.
Write, Manager.

GRAND THEATRE, RHYL.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Whit Week, July 14, and on.
Bookings and pencillings include:
Mr. George Edwardes' "Merry Widow" (two visits), "The Girl in the Train," "The Balkan Princess," "The Arcadians," "The Dancing Mistress," "The Dollar Princess," "The Chocolate Soldier," "The Glad Eye," "Bunty Pulls the Strings," "A Butterfly on the Wheel," "The Speckled Band," "Milestones," "Little Miss Llewelyn," &c., &c.
Address, Charles M. Julian, Manager.
Hippodrome, Wigan.

OPERETTA HOUSE, CLACTON-ON-SEA.
WANTED, First-class Attractions.
Only vacant dates, July 7, 14, 21, Aug. 18, Sept. 15 (3 nights), Sept. 22, 29. Bookings and pencillings include: Carl Hertz, "Glad Eye" (return), "Jelf's," "Dust of Egypt," "Witness for the Defence," "Milestones," "Cingalee." "Quaker Girl," "Gay Lord Quex, &c.
A. E. Abrahams,
73, Romford-road, Stratford, E.

WANTED, First-class Attractions.
DUDLEY OPERA HOUSE,
June 9, onwards.
TOWN HALL THEATRE, CROMER,
July, Aug., and Sept.
TOWN HALL, HUNSTANTON,
to precede or follow Cromer.
DE VALENCE GARDENS, TENBY,
May 12, 26, June 2, 30,
July 14, 28, Aug. 18.
ASSEMBLY ROOMS, TENBY,
Season Dates.
PALACE GARDENS, IPSWICH,
Aug. 18 and 25.
PICTURE PALACE, CONGLETON,
Smart Acts.
Send Vacant Dates and Full Particulars.
"HARLEQUINADERS."
Vacant for June 16, 23,
Sept. 15, 22, and 29.
"SIX PURITAN MAIDS & A COMEDIAN,"
Vacant, May 19, onwards, with exceptions.
Apply, BARING BROS., CHELTENHAM.

REPERTORY THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
A few vacant dates at the above First-class Theatre May 19, onwards.

WANTED, First-class Companies.
Offers invited.
Melodramas excepted.
Apply, Basil Dean, General Manager.

WANTED, Comedy or Musical Companies, April 7, 14, onward. Londesborough Theatre, Scarboro'. Letters, W. H. Waddington, 43, Stonegate, York.

ROYAL PALACE THEATRE, RAMSGATE.
WANTED, First-class Musical Comedies, for Aug. 11, 12, 13, Aug. 18, 19, 20, and Sept. 4, 5, 6 (three nights each); also open to book good panto for Xmas.
Apply, W. J. Attack.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, March 31, April 21, May 5, 12, 19, 26, all August, Sept. 1, 15, 22, 29, Oct. 6 (3 nights), 13, and all Nov. Full particulars, Man.-Director, T.R., Exeter.

WANTED, Companies, Dramatic, March 17, Easter, and on; Panto. write for Easter; must be good. Elphinstone, King's Theatre, Sutton-in-Ashfield.

WANTED, for Easter Week, First-class Combination or any Big Attraction with good printing; sharing terms, stage, scenery, holding capacity about 1,000. Manager, Pier Pavilion, Folkestone.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Colchester, good Companies (3 or 6 nights, last 3 nights preferred), March 10, 17, April 14, 21, 28, May 5, and Autumn. Apply, Macdona.

WANTED, Twice-nightly Pantomimes next season, for Hippodrome, Birkenhead, and Oldham.
Address, E. Dottridge, 50, Union-street, Oldham.

STANLEY, DURHAM ROYAL, LTD.
WANTED, good Attractions, March 10, 17; Musical or Variety Combination preferred for March 17. Also April 7 and 14. Apply, Mark H. Lindon.

KING'S THEATRE, GREENOCK.
WANTED, first-class Drama, Farcical Comedy, or Vaudeville Combination, weeks of March 31, April 21, 28 (?), May 12, on. A. B. and J. J. Wright.

COMPANIES WANTED.

THEATRE ROYAL, BRIGHTON.
WANTED, First-class Attractions Only, April 7, May 26, June 2, July 28.
Address, Lawson Lambert, as above.

WANTED, Wanted, Companies.
Metropole Theatre, Gateshead,
March 31, April 7 and 14.
Theatre Royal, North Shields,
March 10 and 31.
Opera House, Workington,
March 10, 24, 31, and April 14.
Grand Theatre, Lancaster,
April 7, 21, 28, May 19 and 26.
Stanley Rogers, T.R., North Shields.

NEW CENTURY THEATRE, MOTHERWELL.
WANTED, Strong Dramatic Attractions, March 17 (3 nights), 24 (?), April 7, 14, and onward, with exceptions, also Autumn.
Full particulars, John A. Walker.

WANTED, for Hippo., Ilkeston, Feb. 24, March 3, 10, 17, good Companies, Minstrel Troupes, Pierrots, twice nightly. Full particulars, Gus Levaine, Coliseum, Goole.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE MONK AND THE WOMAN."
WANTED, Wanted, March 31, April 7, May 5, 12, and on.
Fredk. Melville, Lyceum Theatre, W.C.

"DRIVEN FROM HOME."
WANTED, March 10, 17, 24.
Andrew Melville, Empire T., Holloway, N.

Alexandre Dumas' Masterpiece,
"MONTE CRISTO,"
from the New Princes Theatre, W.C.
The entire production carried.
WANTED, March 10, 31, May 5.
Andrew Emm, Princes Theatre, W.C.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, Wanted. Wanted,
for this Phenomenal Attraction,
Weeks of March 31 and May 26.
Weeks of March 31 and May 25.
Wire or write to
W. W. Kelly,
New Theatre Royal,
Birkenhead.

"THE NEW EAST LYNNE."
The Most Successful Version Ever Written.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Weeks of March 24 and 31.
Weeks of March 24 and 31.
Weeks of March 24 and 31.
Once or twice nightly.
Wire or write to W. W. Kelly,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
WANTED, Wanted, Theatres or Halls, March 17, 24, onward.
Big Company. Full Chorus. Real Negro Specialties.
All the special scenery and printing.
Charles Harrington,
Theatre Royal, Norwich.

"EAST LYNNE."
WANTED, Wanted, March 17, 24
April 14, May 12,
June 2, 23, 30, July 28,
August 4, 11.
J. Pitt Hardacre,
18s, Pembroke-street, Aberdare.

J. W. CORDINER AND HARRY RICHARDSON'S COMPANY.
"THE COLOMBO GIRL."
By Wilfred Carr.
Music by Harry Richardson.
WANTED, March 17, 24, 31,
All communications, J. W. CORDINER,
SPANISH CITY, WHITLEY BAY.

MR. BULMER'S ENTERPRISES.
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
Played by a Cast that spells SUCCESS.

Mr. John Worth.	Mr. Edwin Morton.
Mr. Evan Roland.	Mr. Reg. Oldroyd.
Mr. Fred Dalby.	Mr. T. C. Glenville.
Miss Maude Steeples.	Miss Sybil Haughton.
Miss Nancy Newell.	Miss Freda Frederick,

and Miss Doris Brookes.
WANTED, Feb. 24, Feb. 24,
March 3, 17, 24.
FRED. BULMER,
Metropole Theatre, Gateshead.

"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."
EUGENE C. STAFFORD'S No. 1 CO.
WANTED, First-class Theatres for above, from Easter onwards. Would rent a good Provincial Theatre. Letters, Stafford, Biddenden, Kent.

MADGE CRICHTON in "ANN."
WANTED, March 24, April 7, May 12, June 2.
Haldane Crichton, 4, Park-place, St. James's, S.W.

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Dates,
"BROUGHT TO RUIN."
March 10, 17, 24,
Morton Powell, Britannia Theatre, London, N.

"GIRL WITHOUT A HOME."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Dates,
This Strong Attraction,
Aug. 4, 11, 18.
Morton Powell, Britannia Theatre, London, N.

"GIRL'S TEMPTATION."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Dates,
This Powerful Play,
March 10, 17, 24,
Morton Powell, Britannia Theatre, London, N.

"TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Dates,
Feb. 17, March 10, 17, 24.
Morton Powell, Britannia Theatre, London, N.

"MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Dates,
March 10, 17, 24.
Morton Powell, Britannia Theatre, London, N.

BRITANNIA THEATRE,
LONDON, N.
Enormous Success
of
"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST."
WANTED, Wanted, Big Theatre,
in Large City,
for next year,
for production of
"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST."
One of the
greatest successes
seen for years.
"The Rose Garden."
A Magnificent Stage Picture.
Morton Powell, Britannia Theatre, London, N.

"A GIRL'S GOOD LUCK."
"A GIRL'S GOOD LUCK."
"A GIRL'S GOOD LUCK."
By Charles Darrell.
WANTED, Easter week.
Easter week.
March 31, Aug. 4, 11, 25, Sept. 1.
E. L. Garside, Theatre Royal, Scarboro'.

The
CAVALIERE F. CASTELLANO
Original
ITALIAN GRAND
OPERA COMPANY.
WANTED, Good Theatres, March 24, March 31.
Fourth Year of Tour in England.
Owing to the return from Italy of Cavaliere F. Castellano, the Tour of this Company will be continued under his personal management.
A number of New Artistes direct from Milan.
Powerful Chorus.
Excellent Orchestra.
All coms. direct to Cavaliere F. Castellano, Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton.

"DIANA OF DOBSON'S."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, March 10, 31, April 21, 28, May 5. Entire actual Kingsway Theatre production. Bookings include all principal provincial and suburban theatres.
Harold V. Neilson, Nordrach, Blagdon, Bristol.

GEORGE N. BALLANGER'S CO.
Young Buffalo
and Caroline May Blaney,
in "KING OF THE WILD WEST.
WANTED, March 10. May 5 and 12.
Frank Mundill. This, Grand, Plymouth.
Feb. 17, Empire, Swindon.

"10.30 DOWN EXPRESS."
WANTED, April 14, 21, and Whit., to follow Nottingham, Mansfield, Worksop, Bangor, Gloucester, Dublin, and precede Aston, Smethwick, Canning Town, Hammersmith, Elephant, &c.
Horace Stanley, to-day, Royal Variety Theatre, Rushden. Next, Olympia Theatre, Coalville.

Ireland's Representative Comedian,
CHALMERS MACKEY,
in
"THE WEARIN' O' THE GREEN,"
"ROLLICKING RORY."
WANTED, No Vacant Dates Till Spring, 1914.
Feb. 17, Grand Hippodrome, Wigan.

"A FATAL CROWN."
"A FATAL CROWN."
WANTED, First-class Theatres or Halls, March 17, 31.
Record business everywhere.
Undoubtedly the biggest Spectacular Show touring. Over 50 people staged.
James Bell,
T.R., Darlington.

"THE BLACKGUARD OF THE QUEEN'S REGIMENT."
Star Cast.
WANTED, April 14. E. Hill-Mitchelson, P.O.W., Grimsby.

THEATRES WANTED.

ARTHUR HINTON AND LEILA ZILLWOOD COMPANIES.
ARTHUR HINTON AND LEILA ZILLWOOD COMPANIES.

THE ORIGINAL AND THE BEST.

A COLUMN OF WINNERS.

GOOD WINE NEEDS NO BUSH.

"ALLAH'S ORCHARD."
"ALLAH'S ORCHARD."
By Miss Emma Litchfield.

WANTED, Big Theatres.
March 17,
March 17,
March 17,
March 17,
March 17,
May 19,
May 19,
May 19,
May 19,
May 19,
and onwards.
and onwards.
and onwards.
and onwards.
and onwards.
The Ideal Twice Nightly Attraction.
This is without doubt the Finest Spectacular Production ever attempted beyond the precincts of the West-End.
Costumes, Scenery, and General Mounting Unsurpassed.
Bevy of Beautiful Women.
Musical-Director.
In brief, absolutely the last word in up-to-date enterprise.
Managers Delighted.
Managers please note that owing to the enormous success of "Allah's Orchard," this play will be toured right through the summer. Those with Vacant Dates please communicate for this very strong attraction.
Messrs. HINTON and ZILLWOOD
wish to
assure
Managers
that
"ALLAH'S ORCHARD"
is
THE
Success of 1913.
Thanks to Mr. Otto C. Culling for contracts after seeing "Allah's Orchard." Also to Mr. H. Pennington and Mr. Chas. Bush. These three gentlemen booking this show after seeing it is proof whether it is a winner or not.
Re Dates.
ARTHUR HINTON,
EMPIRE, WAKEFIELD.

"HIS INDIAN WIFE."
"HIS INDIAN WIFE."
By Miss Emma Litchfield.
WANTED, Wanted, Theatres.
March 10,
March 10,
March 10,
March 10,
March 10,
April 14, 21,
April 14, 21,
April 14, 21,
April 14, 21,
April 14, 21,
May 5,
May 5,
May 5,
May 5,
May 5,
and onwards.
and onwards.
and onwards.
and onwards.
and onwards.

"KING OF THE GIPSIES."
"KING OF THE GIPSIES."
By Miss Emma Litchfield.
Wanted, Theatres,
Wanted, Theatres,
Wanted, Theatres,
Wanted, Theatres,
Wanted, Theatres,
Wanted, Theatres,
Wanted, Theatres,
Wanted, Theatres,
March 17.
March 17.
March 17.
March 17.
March 17.
March 17.
March 17.
March 17.
ARTHUR HINTON and LEILA ZILLWOOD Wish to inform Managers they have secured
"A CLEVER IMPOSTOR,"
"A CLEVER IMPOSTOR,"
by the talented Authoress,
Miss Emma Litchfield.
Production,
LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH, Feb. 24.
Everything travelled, including a Horse.
Wanted, Dates,
Wanted, Dates,
April 14,
April 14,
May 5, May 12, and onwards.
May 5, May 12, and onwards.
NEW PRODUCTION.
NEW PRODUCTION.
Aug. 1913.
Aug. 1913.
Title will be announced later.
If you see it in a Hinton and Zillwood advert. it is so.
Re Dates.
Mr. G. MORETON-WILLIAMS,
"Holmdene," 3, River Bank, Hampton Court.
Telephone, 1733 Kingston-on-Thames.

GORE OUSELEY'S PREDOMINANT PRODUCTION
OF THE
HAUNTING
CINGALEE
From Daly's Theatre.
WANTED, THEATRES and HALLS.

Once Nightly.	Twice Nightly.
WANTED!!!	WANTED!!!
April 7th.	June 9th.
April 7th.	June 9th.
April 7th.	June 9th.
April 7th.	June 9th.
To follow:	To follow:
Theatre Royal, Brighton.	Empire, Croydon.
Grand Theatre, Fulham.	Hippodrome, Willesden.
Artillery, Woolwich.	Hippodrome, Richmond.

GORE OUSELEY, 50, Rupert Street, W.
Manager, E. P. MORGAN. 'Phone—Regent 2286. Wire, "Ouseley, London."

WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
Whit Week Vacant.
"THE GOLD DIGGERS;
or, THE BROKEN TRAIL."
The Most Vivid Drama Ever Written
Once or Twice Nightly.
GORE OUSELEY, 50, Rupert Street, W.
'Phone, Regent 2286.
Wires, "Ouseley, London."

WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
"TURKISH DELIGHT;
or, A SULTAN FOR A NIGHT."
By PERCY FORD.
A Musical Comedy Sketch. Production Shortly. Plays 30 Minutes. In 2 Scenes.
GORE OUSELEY, 50, Rupert Street, W.
'Phone, Regent, 2286.
Wires "Ouseley, London."
General Manager - - E. P. MORGAN.

WANTED, WANTED, DATES.
"ANN."
The latest Criterion success with
Miss MADGE CRICHTON in the Title-role.
GORE OUSELEY, 50, Rupert Street, W.
'Phone. Regent 2286, or
HALDANE CRICHTON, 4, PARK PLACE, ST. JAMES', S.W.

THEATRES WANTED.

WANTED, Dates, for Dec., Jan., and Feb., 1913-14.

A TREMENDOUS NOVELTY.

The Entire and Actual Production of The Wonderful Fairy Christmas Play,

"SANTA CLAUS."

Invented and written by Alfred de Manby, Leedham Bantock and Harold Simpson.

Music by Theodore Holland.

From the Scala Theatre, London.

Characters:

Ting-a-ling ..... The Spirit of Yuletide
King Soot ..... An Evildoer
Flame ..... His Attendant
Tabby, Tom ..... The Two Cats
Smut, Smoke ..... The Two Sweeps
Old Mother Shipton.
The Man in the Moon.
Father Time.
Fairy Snowflake.
Peppermint Rock, Barley Sugar, Stickjaw, Liquorice ..... The Four Sweets
Kiruna, Abisco ..... Two Laplanders
The New Year, and Father Christmas.

Chorus of Brownies, Moonbeams, Lollipops, and Boy Scouts.

BEAUTIFUL STAGE SETTINGS INCLUDE:

The Realms of King Soot,
Housetop Land,
Lollipop Land,
Mother Shipton's Home in Cloudland,
and
Christmas Land.

WONDERFUL KINEMACOLOR EFFECTS INCLUDE:

Toyland,
The journey of Father Christmas and Ting-a-ling through the air in their reindeer sleigh,
Father Neptune at the bottom of the Sea,
The Rich Children's Home,
The Poor Children's Home,
The Naughty Boy's Home,
and
The Children's Hospital.

Costumes designed and executed by B. J. Simmons and Co., London.
Wigs and Properties by Clarkson, London.
Toys by Gamage, Ltd., London.

THE ENTIRE LONDON PRESS UNANIMOUS IN THEIR PRAISE.

"Daily Telegraph":—
A decidedly happy blend of a Christmas play unfolded by means of Kinemacolor pictures, and one employing the ordinary resources of the stage. . . . The audience was delighted.

"Morning Post":—
The combination of natural and mechanical illusion was remarkably successful. . . . Sure to be popular. . . . A continual feast for the eyes. Very fine were the scenes in which Father Time put back the hands of the clock, in which Neptune and the Sea-maidens sat in a beautiful cavern at the bottom of the ocean, and in which the song and silent dance of the Moonbeams lulled Santa Claus to sleep.

"Standard":—
Nothing so strange and mysterious has ever been seen.

"Daily Chronicle":—
Altogether a most joyous fantasy, full of prettiness, tenderness, and wonder, devised with genuine feeling and imagination.

"Daily News and Leader":—
A distinct novelty. . . . A really charming production. . . . Every moment packed full of fun and brightness.

"Daily Graphic":—
A great success.

"Daily Mirror":—
A marvellous pantomime.

"Daily Sketch":—
Passed in triumph the searching criticism of youth . . . Will linger in childhood's memory for many a long day.

"Morning Advertiser":—
Pathos and humour are happily blended. The whole performance is very cleverly arranged, and is sure to prove a big draw for young and old.

"Sportsman":—
If the cheers of a well-filled house be accepted as any criterion, the production is, as it thoroughly deserves to be, a whole-hearted success. . . . Must be numbered among one of London's leading entertainments.

"Globe":—
A combination with the happiest results.

"Pall Mall Gazette":—
Very refined, amusing, and pretty. . . . Is likely to give delight to all who see it, be they juveniles or "grown-ups." . . . Was received with great applause.

"Evening News":—
Grown-up people can find in it something which will take away the burden of years and transport them back again to the happy land of Make-Believe.

"Star":—
A really charming production.

"Observer":—
Well worth a visit—or two visits.

"Sunday Times":—
We confess we were astonished. . . . A most attractive entertainment.

"Referee":—
A novel arrangement of stage play and Kinemacolor blended with the happiest results. . . . A charming fantasy.

"Reynolds's":—
A really interesting and diverting entertainment. . . . Some very remarkable and bewildering effects.

"Weekly Times":—
An entirely delightful fairy play.

"Graphic":—
Truly wonderful.

"Lady's Pictorial":—
Boys and girls should certainly insist on being taken to see Santa Claus. . . . A dainty fairy play.

"Queen":—
Of the many Christmas productions there are none that will give the children greater pleasure.

"Era":—
A most enjoyable and unique entertainment. . . . There is not a dull moment.

Apply for Vacant Dates for Dec., Jan., and Feb., 1913-14, to

MESSRS. ALFRED DE MANBY and LEEDHAM BANTOCK,
80-82, WARDOUR STREET, LONDON, W.

THEATRES WANTED.

"A WHITE SLAVE."
"A WHITE SLAVE."
By Edward Thane.
A Powerful Play Dealing with the White Slave Traffic.
Play with Moral at Grand Theatre.

The white slave traffic question has become such a burning question of late that it can be no surprise to find that a play has been written around the theme. It is the work of Mr. Edward Thane, and is paying its first visit to Brighton this week at the Grand Theatre, where it is proving the draw it fully deserves to be. The author is responsible for a play of a very powerful character, full of exciting incidents, and having a moral that is a fitting stage sermon. The management of the local home of drama could hardly have secured a more attractive engagement to celebrate the re-opening of the dramatic season at their theatre, and it is all the more welcome by reason of the fact that "A White Slave" is being played by Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Millane's No. 1 Company, which presented "Mother" with so much success only thirteen weeks ago.

The play is in four acts with eight scenes, and the interest stimulated from the very outset is continued until the final fall of the curtain, the exciting incidents of the plot being pleasantly varied by a clever vein of comedy that permeates the production. A very notable figure in the cast is supplied by Mr. Joseph Millane, in the character of the inventor, Victor Ashton. Mr. Millane is an actor of such dramatic power, and here he has a character right after his own heart, with the result that he is responsible for some very fine histrionic work. Miss Mabel Rose must also be specially mentioned for her impersonation of the rôle of Keerie Paget, the good girl with a good name, who is the subject of much evil machination.—"Sussex Evening Times."

I have only played "A White Slave" three weeks, and here are the expressions of two managers:—

Mr. Ben Court says: You have easily broken all records for the last eight years for the first drama in after pantomime.

Mr. Morris Abrahams: You have broken all records at Queen's, Poplar, for seven years.

WANTED, Large Theatres or Music Halls, for March 31, April 14, 21, 28, May 5, 12, Aug. 4, 25, Sept. 8, 22, Nov. 10. Wire or write, Joseph Millane, To-day, Grand, Brighton. Next week, Theatre Royal, Aston.

"NICK CARTER, DETECTIVE."
"NICK CARTER, DETECTIVE."
"NICK CARTER, DETECTIVE."
"NICK CARTER, DETECTIVE."

WANTED, March 31, April 7, 14, May 5 (North), 26 (?), also a few Autumn. Enthusiastic reception on 15 months' return at Princes, Portsmouth. Refer. J. Forbes Knowles, New T., Weymouth.

HERBERT FULLER'S POWERFUL COMPANY.
"AS YOUR HAIR GROWS WHITER."

WANTED, March 3 (South), 17, 24, April 14, 28, May 5, June 2, 9, 16, 23, July 21, 28, Aug. 18, and various on. Spring Bookings:—Portsmouth; Alex., Hull; G., Grimsby; King's, Preston; Met., Glasgow; Junc., Manchester; Leicester; Woolwich; Hip., Huddersfield; Dublin, Belfast, Watford, Halifax, Dewsbury, Dundee, &c. Also "MOTHERLESS." Vacant June 9, follow P., Newcastle, and various on. Entire productions carried. Star cast. Wire, T.R., South Shields; write, T.R., Woolwich.

"ALIAS JIMMY VALENTINE" and "SHERLOCK HOLMES."

WANTED, First-class Theatres, March 31 (Lancashire or Yorkshire), April 7, 14, 21. Hamilton Stewart, Palace Theatre, Bordesley, Birmingham.

THOMAS RHYDE, presenting
"THE SHERIFF OF LONESOME PINE."
A gripping story of the Great American West.
Only clear stage wanted.
Everything carried.
Large Plant of Pictorial Printing.

WANTED, Theatres, for immediate open time, Feb. 24 (precede Grand, Nottingham), March 24 and 31 (between Burnley and Portsmouth), April 14 (between Portsmouth and Belfast), May 19 (between Cork and Birkenhead). Address, re dates, F. Martin Morris, 6 Flat, 26, Russell-street, Brixton-road, London.

Along the line the signal ran—
There is no play like "MAN TO MAN."

WANTED, Feb. 24, April 21 (South), Sept. 1. Edward Lloyd, Grand, Nottingham.

"THE OLD FOLKS AT HOME."
A Perfect Production. Everything carried.

WANTED, March 3 (3 nights), March 10 and 17, Edward Lloyd, Grand, Nottingham.

HARRY BRISTOW and MAY FORDE'S
"I DEFY THE WORLD."

WANTED, good Theatre, March 24, 31. Feb. 17, Hippodrome, Bilston.

"THE GIRL OF MY HEART."
Never was a play more popular.—"The Times."

WANTED, March 10 and Easter (North), April 28, and Whit and Autumn. One of Arthur Jefferson's "crowd attractors." Refer. Leonard. This, Met., Glasgow. Next, Paisley.

"THE PRAIRIE OUTLAW."
Vacant, March 10.

WANTED, First-class Theatres. One of the finest drawing Shows on the Road. Wire, Kimberley, Theatre, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, for Mr. Sydney Poulter's Company in "Dad," March 31 and other Spring dates. Full production from the Playhouse, Paris. Apply, Miss Fellowes-Robinson, Coronet Theatre, London, W.

WANTED, for "The Slave Girl," Lancs, April 28, also South or London, Aug. 4, Sept. 1, 23, 30, Oct. 6. Note.—This production is run on No. 1 lines, and is quite unlike any previous one of similar title. Coms., Ward, T.R., Wolverhampton.

WANTED, for up-to-date Musical Comedy, Theatres and Twice-nightly Halls (trial tours a big success), a few investors, or artistes, or really clever amateurs, to join syndicate. Write full particulars for London interview to Nairn, Palladium, London.

MR. and MRS. WILSON BENGE and No. 1 Co.,
"THE COWBOY'S REVENGE."

WANTED, Easter Week, also March 31 and Whit Week. Booked by Messrs. Broadhead, Moss' Empires, Otto Culling, S. Barnard, A. E. Abrahams, Wm. Coutts, J. Coulson, &c. Wires and letters, T.R., Swansea.

WANTED, Wanted, Theatres for JEANNE DI RAMO, the Eminent Italian Tragedienne, supported by First-class London company, in "THE QUEEN OF THIEVES; OR, MASTER OF MILLIONS," by Geo. E. Clive. Special Scenery and Printing. Tour under the direction of Charles W. Johnson. Vacant, March 10, Easter, and few after dates. Address, re dates only, Herbert Ralland, Daly's Theatre Buildings, 32, Lisle-street, W.C.

"THE DUST OF EGYPT," and "AFTER THE OPERA."

WANTED, Dates, March 24, April 14, 21, Aug. 11, on. George Waters, 4, Park-place, St. James's-street, W.

"MRS. DANE'S DEFENCE." "JOSEPH ENTANGLED," "THE LIARS."
By Henry Arthur Jones.

WANTED, March 3, 10, onwards, with exceptions. Cast includes Miss Mabel Manneringe. Wire or write, Millar Anderson, to-day, G.T., Chorley; next, Ashton-under-Lyne.

THEATRES WANTED.

MR. and MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S CO.'S.
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THE PRAIRIE OUTLAW.

By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.

North Company vacant March 10, April 7. Only vacant dates until Autumn, which is rapidly booking. South Company, Spring fully booked. Vacant August 4, 11, few late Autumn.

This Play guaranteed the finest dressed and mounted Indian Play on the road. Will live, as it has a strong dramatic plot. Two Companies nearly full 1913, and now booking 1914. Refer to Messrs. Percy B. Broadhead; T. W. Rowe, Palace, Newcastle; J. Coulson, S. Shields; Leon Salberg, Alex., Birmingham, &c., &c

THE WILD GIRL OF THE FOREST.

By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.

Guaranteed one of the best mounted military plays on the road.

More New Beautiful Uniforms just being added, Scenery, &c.

Vacant March 17.
Vacant March 17.
Vacant March 17.

Only Vacant Dates until Autumn.
Only Vacant Dates until Autumn.
Only Vacant Dates until Autumn.

WAS SHE TO BLAME?

By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.

Vacant Few Summer and Autumn Dates.
Vacant Few Summer and Autumn Dates.
Vacant Few Summer and Autumn Dates.

HER PATH OF SORROW.

By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.

Vacant Few Summer and Autumn Dates.
Vacant Few Summer and Autumn Dates.
Vacant Few Summer and Autumn Dates.

August Bank Holiday and Xmas Settled.
August Bank Holiday and Xmas Settled.
August Bank Holiday and Xmas Settled.

MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S NEW PRODUCTION.

Production Aug. 18, at the Junction, Manchester, With the Broadhead Circuit to follow.

Title to be known later.

THE BOY DETECTIVE.

By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.

Production, Whit week, King's, Longsight. Mr. and Mrs. Harry Lyndon's Company.

Many thanks to Mr. Percy B. Broadhead for all his theatres.

THEATRE ROYAL, WOLVERHAMPTON.

Lessee and Manager, F. G. Kimberley.

Vacant March 17, Aug. 11.
Vacant March 17, Aug. 11.
Vacant March 17, Aug. 11.

This is the Dramatic Theatre of the Town. Business better each year.

J. NEWTON COWLING'S TOUR.

THE COLLIER'S LASS.

By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.

Two companies on the road of this great success.

Both equal.

North. Co. Vacant Whit.
North. Co. Vacant Whit.
North. Co. Vacant Whit.

South Co. Vacant Whit week.
South Co. Vacant Whit week.
South Co. Vacant Whit week.

Managers of South and Welsh Towns who are afraid of booking this piece are requested to refer to Palace, Bordesley; then T.R., Stratford, where it did enormous; and T.R., Woolwich, and Star, Swansea. Whether North, South, East, or West this Play breaks records. Guaranteed the biggest dramatic success on the road to-day.

HER SECRET LOVER.

By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.

Vacant Few Summer Dates.
Vacant Few Summer Dates.
Vacant Few Summer Dates.

Managers needing good, sound, honest attractions, book Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's Plays.

Write for same to F. G. Kimberley, Theatre Royal, Wolverhampton.

THEATRES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Theatres for MINSTRELS. MINSTRELS. MINSTRELS MINSTRELS. This class of entertainment has come to stay, and while it is here have the best. No chair warmers. No supers. Every one of this Troupe is an Artiste and a Performer. A Double Quartette. Double Sets of Comedians. Double Sets of Dancers.

Proprietors and Managers note that everything is carried, including my own Conductor.

First vacant date Oct. 6, and onwards.

Shares or certainty. All letters to W. J. Churchill, Llandudno.

WANTED, "WITNESS FOR THE DEFENCE," Easter and May Dates. "NOBODY'S DAUGHTER," March 10, on (follow Brighton). "THE BLINDNESS OF VIRTUE," March 3, on (follow Margate). "WHAT A MAN MADE HER," Immediate and Future Dates. Weathersby's Agency, 3, Bedford-st., W.C.

"KIT CARSON."
WANTED, March 31, in or near London; also various Autumn Dates. C. H. Longden, Grand Theatre, Luton.

GEORGE N. BALLANGER'S
Latest American Production,
"THE ROUND UP."
The real thing in Cowboy Melodrama.

WANTED, Big Theatres or Music Halls for March 10, April 28, May 5 and 12 (?), Aug 4, and various onwards. A beautiful scenic production. Powerful company. Everything carried. A clear stage only required. March 10. Wire for March 10.

Geo. E. Carleton, This, T.R., Ashton; Next, T.R., Sheffield.

"MYSTERIES OF THE THAMES."
WANTED, Good Theatre, Feb. 24. Wire, Walter Steele, T.R., Margate; next, Globe T., Deal.

"HINDLE WAKES."
The Play that is Breaking Records Everywhere. Now Booking Summer and Autumn.

WANTED, March 10 and 31, April 7 (North). Also Big Theatres for Xmas and New Year Weeks. All applications, Edwin T. Heys, Mile End, Stockport.

WILL H. GLAZE'S TOURS.
The Mascot,
"NO MOTHER TO GUIDE HER."
"NO MOTHER TO GUIDE HER."
By Nita Rae.
Vacant. Vacant. Vacant,
March 3. March 3. March 3.
March 3. March 3. March 3.

WANTED, Wanted, First-class Theatres. Wire, Will H. Glaze. To-day, T.R., Grantham; Mon., T.R., Macclesfield.

WANTED, Theatres, Pier Pavilions, &c., for Wellesley Lynn's unique entertainment of mirthful, mystical, and musical recitals; six first-class artistes; several big drawing novelties. Manager, 119, Fielding-road, Bedford Park, W.

ARTISTES WANTED.

MR. GORE OUSELEY'S PRODUCTIONS.

WANTED, Musical Comedy Artistes in all Lines, also full Chorus, for "The Cingalee" and "A Sultan for a Night," &c., &c.

Notice.—All Artistes desirous of Singing to Mr. Ouseley will kindly call, with song, between 1 and 2 p.m. daily.

50, Rupert-street, W.

MR. NORMAN B. CANNON AND MISS HOPE TRANT'S COMPANIES (Ireland).
Under the Distinguished Patronage of T.E. the Lord Lieutenant and Lady Aberdeen.

WANTED Several Useful Actors, including Clever Comedian, for high-class repertoire. Also Good Carpenter (own tools), to take entire charge of fit-up (two baggage men, travelled), and Really Smart Advance Agent. Tour opens Easter, and will run through summer. Rehearse, London. All particulars, photos. and lowest summer terms to Cannon, Minster House, Minster Lovell, Nr. Witney, Oxon.

"A WHITE SLAVE."
WANTED, First-class Leading Man, capable of General Management preferred. Rehearse March 3.

Possibly other Vacancies shortly.

Photos, terms, all particulars,

Joseph Millane, Theatre Royal, Aston.

WANTED, to rehearse next week, Low Comedy Actress, for Angelina in "The Slave Girl"; tall preferred; must sing and dance well.

Address, with all particulars, T. E. Ward, T.R., Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Experienced Actor, accustomed to Shaw or Horniman School of Acting, play part of actor-manager in successful comedy duologue. Particulars, Juliet Page, 157, Isledon-rd., Finsbury Park, N.

"ONLY AN ARTIST'S MODEL."
WANTED, through disappointment, good Juvenile Leading Man; young, must have power and pathos; also tall, Dramatic Chambermaid, with plenty of dash and go, Fast Woman part. Age, height, recent photo, and last three refs. Rehearse Feb. 24, Glasgow. Stanley Carlton, c/o Mrs. Watt, 14, Union-st., Dundee.

WANTED, Good Responsible, for Scragg and Admiral, "The Girl of My Heart" Tour; rehearse Paisley, open Feb. 24. Add., Leonard. This, Met., Glasgow. Next, Paisley.

FRED MAXWELL'S TOUR.
"LORD HARKAWAY."
WANTED, First-class Juvenile Leading Gent; Double Aristocratic Old Gent; not less than 5ft. 9½in.; good voice and appearance. Photos, lowest terms, references, to Fred Maxwell, 228, Camberwell New-road, London, S.E. Letters only, first instance, for appointment.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Wanted, Musical Comedy Dancers for "Arcadians" production in Paris. Appearance essential. Height 5ft. 5in. to 5ft. 8in. Salary £3 to £4. Also Smart Chorus Men, with knowledge of dancing.

Write, J. W. Jackson, 27, St. Anne's-road, Brixton.

WANTED, Artistes, all lines, first-class only; tour and seaside. Full particulars, age, height, photos, Stratton Wells, Queen's Hall, Cardiff.

WANTED, good all-round Dancer; must be able to do Solo Work; also essential to be able to accept contract for one year certain; height 5ft. 4in. Communicate, at once, with photo, which will be returned, to Kittie Battersby, Her Majesty's Theatre, Walsall.

WANTED, Dramatic Artistes who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, I. Dorcas Thomasine Warde, formerly Foote, theatrically known as Miss Doris Foote, widow of the late George Henry Ward, am alive, and not dead, as reported. Disengaged. Address, c/o "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

WANTED, Known, Lady Dramatist Wants Small Part; sketch or otherwise; moderate salary (recommended). Box 4,333, "The Era."

PANTOMIME ARTISTES WANTED

WANTED, immediately, for tour in South Africa, Prince, Dandini, Cinderella; also comedians for Page and Ugly Sisters. Lowest salary and refs. to E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, first-class Producer for music hall sketches; must be reliable and thoroughly experienced. Apply, Fred Karno, 28, Vaughan-road, Camberwell, S.E.

WANTED, reliable, experienced Manager, to take full control of a First-class Dramatic Co.; salary 50s.; must deposit as security £50; will be returned end of engagement. Full particulars, Box 4,367, "The Era."

WANTED, a thoroughly reliable, smart Manager, Producer, and Artiste, for high-class concert party; must be refined and able to influence bookings. Age, terms, refs., and full particulars, Box 4,368, "The Era."

WANTED, by Amateurs, Stage-Manager, to produce "The Amazons" in Manchester on March 14 and 15. Rehearsals begin Feb. 24, 5.30 p.m. to 10 p.m. only, daily. Write, giving references of similar work and stating fee, Benton, 86, Acomb-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Single Young Man as Business Representative. Send photograph in first letter, and reply to Lord John Sanger and Sons, Ltd., Burstow Lodge, Horley, Surrey.

WANTED, immediately, smart, young Stage-Manager; must be used to handling big productions and quick programmes. Apply, with full particulars and references, to Harry Esden, Empire, Sunderland.

WANTED, a thoroughly experienced and reliable Electrician, for first-class provincial variety theatre. Apply, with lowest terms and references, to Box 4,343, "The Era."

WANTED, Bill Poster; must be experienced high ladder man; permanency for a steady, reliable man. Apply, the General Billposting Co., Ltd., Pink-lane, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Reliable Billposter; to Manage Branch Office. Apply, G. and A. Woolley, Billposters, Paisley.

WANTED, Canvassers with experience of Theatre Curtain and Programme Work; 30 per cent. paid to quick workers. Apply, immediately, stating fully experience, age, height, mediums already worked, Box 4,358, "The Era," 5, Tavistock-st., W.C. Bogus canvassers can save stamps. Advance Agents write.

WANTED, at once, Experienced Secretary (Girl); shorthand and typing; first-rate theatrical experience required; interview by appointment. Apply, Laurence, 31, Bedford-street (third floor), Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Gentlemanly Representative, by Leading London House, to introduce a wonderful, quick-selling line in Theatres, Music Halls, Picture Palaces, &c.; excellent opportunity for suitable man; good salary and commission; must be smart and quick; highest references indispensable. Write fullest particulars of qualifications, experience, &c., Room 23, 24, Charing Cross, S.W.

WANTED, Re-engagement, by, practical Variety Stage Manager; a man who understands his business; now working West-End Theatre. Box 4,260, "The Era."

WANTED, Change, by well-known provincial Variety and Picture Manager; a conscientious worker, keen advertiser, and an all-round hustler; excellent refs.; age 32; height 6ft. Apply, Box 4,347, "The Era."

WANTED, Engt. by R. Barchan, Advance Agent; fit-up or theatre; ex. refs.; refer Harry Benet; &c.; also present manager, Carl Fredericks; concluding 10 weeks' panto. tour. Lib., Feb. 22. Add., Post Office, Tewkesbury; after Wed., P.O., Ross.

WANTED, Summer Engagement by young, experienced Variety Manager; seaside preferred. Full particulars, Box 4,344, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, disengaged, Feb. 15, Raymond Peters, Props and Baggage Parts, Res. or Tour, P.P. or Theatre, age 22, 5ft. 7in., concluding Panto. with Mr. Gar Kiddie. Hippo., Wigan. Feb. 17, 11, Bright-st., Salford, Manchester.

WANTED, by Smart, Educated, Exp. Young Man, Sit., any capacity, Theatre or Hall (London preferred). Vere, 57, High-st., Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, by a Refined Young Lady, Situation as Dresser or Maid to Professional Lady; good dressmaker. Box 4,331, "The Era."

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, for Leading Picture House, in the North, First-class Violinist (Conductor); to commence Easter Monday; good library of high-class music essential. Also 'Cello, Bass, and Pianist. First-class musicians only entertained. Age, terms, refs., Henry Bull, M.-D., Hippodrome, Darlington.

WANTED, a Good Leader, for Camberwell Palace. Apply, Walter S. Marten, Mus.-Dir.

WANTED, Leader (thoroughly experienced), for No. 1 Suburban Theatre; good, permanent berth to first-class man; young man preferred; deputies not allowed. Box 4,365, "The Era."

WANTED, good Leader, also Solo Clarinet, to open Feb. 24. Apply, lowest terms and references, to Mr. Edwin Winter, Manager, Empire Music Hall, South Shields.

WANTED, Violinist, Pianist, and 'Cellist; must be thoroughly experienced in restaurant playing and first-class soloists; good salary. N. M., Box 4,357, "The Era."

WANTED, for First-class Variety Theatre, South Coast, all the year, two good First Violins, 'Cello, and Cornet. Terms and references, Box 4,359, "The Era."

WANTED, good First Violin, or Leader. Will Smithson, Empire Palace, Barnsley.

WANTED, First-class Violinist; must be excellent player and experienced, for Cinema Theatre in North London; permanency for suitable man; only those in London need apply, by letter only, to F. W. Purcell, South Side, Delmeny avenue, Tufnell Park, N.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, for Big Comedy Musical Act, a Steady, Sober, Reliable, First-class Solo Cornet Player, for permanency all year round. Fares paid after joining.
State age, height, and abilities
to Box 4,336, "The Era."

WANTED, for Big Comedy Musical Act, a Steady, Sober, Reliable, First-class Clarinet Player, for permanency all year round. Fares paid after joining.
State age, height, and abilities
to Box 4,335, "The Era."

WANTED, for Big Comedy Musical Act, a Steady, Sober, Reliable, First-class Trombone Soloist, for permanency all year round. Fares paid after joining.
State age, height, and abilities
to Box 4,337, "The Era."

WANTED, for Big Comedy Musical Act, a Steady Sober, Reliable, First-class Solo Euphonium Player, for permanency all year round. Fares paid after joining.
State age, height, and abilities
to Box 4,334, "The Era."

WANTED, Violinists, 'Cellists, Pianists, and Double Bass Players, for Royal Mail Liners. Apply to Enos Greene, 205, Fordwych-road, Cricklewood, N.W.

WANTED, Second Violin Player; must be able to play brass for parade.
Reply to Lord John Sanger and Sons, Ltd., Burstow Lodge, Horley, Surrey.

WANTED, First and Second Cornet, Euphonium and Trombone.
Open at once.
Apply, Manager, Australian Circus, Crewe.

WANTED, First-class Lady Cornet, good appearance, for Stage.
Apply, Box 4,352, "The Era."

CYMMER COLLIERY MILITARY BAND.

WANTED, First B-flat Clarinet and E-flat Clarinet Players.
Apply, Secretary, 106, Aber Rhondda-road, Porth.

WANTED, First-class 'Cello Player; Pictures, Varieties; twice nightly; permanent shop, good man. Terms, &c., Wilfred Bryant, Manager, Palace Theatre, High Shields.

WANTED, 'Cellist, to commence Feb. 24; must understand Variety business. Apply, stating terms, &c., D. J. Clarke, Argyle Theatre, Birkenhead.

WANTED, 'Cello; accustomed to high-class varieties. Terms, references,
Shackleton, Hippodrome, Brighton.

WANTED, for Picture Palace, to open Monday, Feb. 24, Flute and Piccolo, also Pianist-Organist (Lady or Gent.), to deputise for some months; good sight readers; comfortable engagement; terms £1 12s. 6d., for six nights and one matinée. State age and refs. Conductor, 71, Manor House-road, Jesmond, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Flute, Drums, Solo 'Cello, Bass (Ladies), for excellent Continental Engagement. Send photo, experience, &c. Write Box 4,361, "The Era."

WANTED, at once, Brilliant Flute and Piccolo (lady or gent); must be young, of good appearance for a Musical Act (stage). Apply, by letter, with photo, to
Manager, 15, Vassall-road, Brixton.

WANTED, Lady Instrumentalists, Flute and Pic., Clarinet, Second Cornet, Vocalist (to combine Violin), 6 days, Easter. Apply, Sidney, 30, Rylett-road, Shepherd's Bush, W.

WANTED, Organist, for First-class Picture Theatre; must be used to pedal organ. Apply, by letter, Musical-Director, Electric Pavilions, Canadian Club-chambers, 20, Cockspur-street, S.W.

WANTED, Excellent Lady Pianiste, experienced, for Stage, good appearance.
Box 4,351, "The Era."

WANTED, First-class Pianist.
Must have Dramatic experience.
Terms, references, to
Manager, Metropole Theatre, Glasgow

HIPPODROME, STOKE-ON-TRENT
WANTED, Good Pianist, used to Drama and Varieties, twice nightly; one to combine second violin preferred. Terms and references,
William Berson, Manager.

WANTED, High-class Orchestral Pianist for Cinema House, Edinburgh, 5½ hours daily. Terms, &c., Norman Saenton, M.-D., 156, Roseberyav., Manor Park.

WANTED, a Band of Twenty, including Conductor, for Summer Season (3 months), commencing June; string or military; in uniform; with extensive and up-to-date library; three concerts per day; one on Sunday. Applications, stating lowest terms, not later than Feb. 21. Copies only of testimonials, &c. Silence a polite negative. Box 4,342, "The Era."

WANTED, band of 16, for suburban theatre at once; must be non-union men. Apply, with terms and full particulars, to Box 4,349, "The Era."

WANTED, First-class Orchestral Musicians (all instruments); two weeks at Easter and long Summer Season from Whit. State all particulars, Box 4,356, "The Era."

NORWICH CITY ASYLUM,
HELLESDON, NORWICH.
WANTED, First Cornet Player (good sight reader), as Attendant at the above Asylum; must be single and not more than 35 years of age, or less than 5ft. 6in. in height.
Application forms and conditions of service may be obtained from the Medical Superintendent.

ROYAL BURGH OF ROTHESAY
MILITARY BAND.
June 16 to Sept. 27.

WANTED, experienced Military Band Players; good wages to exceptional Soloists.
All Instruments apply.
Double Drummer, with all Effects; must be clever.
Terms, references.
Two performances daily, excepting Sundays.

Frank W. Lewis,
Rosebank, Rothesay.

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, Violin-Conductor, with small or full orchestra; good refs.; now free. 26, Inglewood-road, West Hampstead, N.W.

WANTED, Engagement, First Violin and Pianist (Ladies), own splendid library, thoroughly efficient. Write, Box 4,362, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Miss Edie Reeve disengaged Feb. 15; first or second violin; experienced; pictures; in or near London. 60, Kimberley-gardens, Harringay, N.

WANTED, Known, Violinist, Leader and 'Cellist (Ladies), at liberty, together or separate. London preferred; any business. Box 4,360, "The Era."

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement as Musical-Director (Piano), touring or resident, Theatre or Var.; large library, competent, reliable. H. Briscoe Kimberley, Hippo., Warrington; after Sunday, 21, Bourne-st., Dudley.

WANTED, Known, Musical-Director, thoroughly experienced in Concert, Drama, Varieties, now free; excellent references. Eduard Lertz, 26, Inglewood-road, West Hampstead.

WANTED, Permanency as Musical-Director, Variety preferred; fully competent, brilliant Solo Violinist and Pianist. Terms, &c., Stanley Galpin, High Wycombe.

WANTED, Known, Conductor-Violinist, at Liberty April to October; up-to-date library; highest references. Address, Conductor, 40, Loreburn-road, Wavertree, Liverpool.

WANTED, Re-engagement, by First-class Violinist; any business, or deputising; highest refs., &c. Write, Violinist, 29, Northway-road, Coldharbour-lane, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, by Cornet; experienced; variety and dramatic; young and steady. Sinclair, 70, Newington Green-road, Islington, London, N.

WANTED, Engagement, by Cornet, first or second, thoroughly reliable, any business; can open at once. Robson, 2, Waterhouse-terrace, Upper Kirkgate, Halifax.

WANTED, Engagement as Solo Cornet or Piano; used to variety; London or suburbs only. H. Connor, 48, Kensington-avenue, Watford, Herts.

WANTED, Known, Horn Player Desires Change; summer or permanency; principal or otherwise; experienced, concerts, &c.; sound references. Box 4,339, "The Era."

WANTED, by Steady, String Bass (perm. pref.); good drama or picture house; Union terms; at liberty after two weeks' notice present shop.
Basso, c/o Carson, 14, Kelly-street, Greenock.

WANTED, by Bassoon, Engagement. Experienced man. Good refs.
Box 4,332, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Bassoon, at lib.; combine Oboe; good orch. and mil. exp; steady, reliable. W. O., 2, Doddington-grove, Kennington, S.E.

WANTED, by Trombone, Engagement; season or permanent; military or orchestral work; experienced player.
J. Thwaites, 39, Parkfield-road, Bolton.

WANTED, Engagement, by good experienced and reliable Trombone; any business; good refs. Address, F. Milton, 9, Colnbrook-st., Southwark, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, First-class Obocist at liberty Feb. 17; any business; high or low pitch. W. Benson, 42, West-street, Higher Blackley, Manchester.

WANTED, by Flautist, some experience, wishes to Join Trio-quartette Party or Orchestral Engagement; London or suburbs. Box 4,346, "The Era."

WANTED, by Flute and Piccolo, Engagement; thoroughly experienced in Theatre or Variety Business. Excellent references. Flautist, 18, Conningham-road, Shepherd's Bush, London.

WANTED, Known, Flautist, highly experienced, open for odd weeks till May 10, any business. Grand Opera Symphony Concerts or Military; or would deputise. High and Flat pitch instruments. Brilliant soloist. Sidney Jones, 6, Harrowdene-road, Knowle, Bristol.

WANTED, Wanted, Known.
THE
LONDON MUSICAL EXCHANGE
(Caesare Elliott)
Supplies First-class
MILITARY BANDS,
VIENNESE, HUNGARIAN,
ROUMANIAN ORCHESTRAS,
and Other Musical Attractions.
Apply to the
LONDON MUSICAL EXCHANGE,
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Regent-street, W.

WANTED, Engagement, Picture Pianist (male); not a domino thumper; at liberty for relief engagement or full time. J. E., 33, Raymond-road, Upton Park.

WANTED, Re-engagement, Lady Pianiste (young), Orchestral experience; Hydro, Hotel, or Café Orchestra preferred, excellent vocalist (contralto). Kathleen Twist, 25, Hill-street, S.S., Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, Pianist, thoroughly experienced, any business, disengaged from Feb. 16, through close of winter season; highest references. Jordan, Hengler's Cirque, Glasgow.

WANTED, Engagement, by Brilliant Young Pianist; London preferred.
Address, Cleere, 31, Abbotshall-road, Catford, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Lady Double Drummer, Tympani, Glockenspiel (also plays bass), requires Theatre Engagement; also Lady 'Cellist, solo and orchestral; both thoroughly experienced; all own instruments. Box 4,348, "The Era."

WANTED, by a Good Double Drummer, Glockenspiel and Effects. Position in Theatre or Band where employment is found; good references. Box 4,341, "The Era."

WANTED, by Drummer, Tympanist, Glockenspiel, Xylophone, &c.; high-class refs. Wire, Gold, 94, Sclater-street, Shoreditch, E. 'Phone, London Wall 4274.

WANTED, by Drummer, own Tympani, Glockenspiel, &c., summer engagement or permanency. Highest references all work. Write, Box 4,353, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, The Strebelle Ladies' Orchestra; first-class soloists, and songs at the harp, soprano (Gold Medallist); large repertoire; dis. for home or Continental engagement. Also, shortly at liberty, Splendid Quartette (two violins, 'cello, piano). Mlle. Strebelle, Conductress, Harbour House, Margate.

WANTED, Known, Rosetti Quartette (Ladies) disengaged Feb. 15; piano, violin, flute, piccolo, 'cello, organ; up-to-date requirements. 9, Victoria-road, Perry-street, Gravesend.

WANTED, Known, Miss Annetta Buxton's Ladies' Orchestra; disengaged Easter and Summer Season; smart costumes. 25, St. Leonard's-rd., East Sheen, S.W.

WANTED, Known, to Managers of Tea Shops and Others, who require First-rate Orchestra Trio or Quartette; Continental style; large and up-to-date library. Write, Box 4,340, "The Era."

Hydro, Hotel, Café, and Cinema Proprietors.
WANTED, Known, First-class Orchestral Trio of Brilliant Musicians (Violin, 'Cello, and Piano), shortly concluding successful engagement, invite offers; extensive and up-to-date repertoire. Box 4,282, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Small Band, including Harp, from a leading West End Restaurant, can accept afternoon engagements. Address, Harpiste, 7, Handel-street, Brunswick-sq.

WANTED, Engagement, for Smart String Orchestra; vacant from Whitsun; extensive library; uniform, if required. Apply, Conductor, Theatre Royal, Windsor.

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WANTED, Known, to Picture Theatres, Mme. Walter can supply Ladies' or Gentlemen's Bands.
All experienced performers and picture players.
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WANTED, Known, Miss Dorothea Vincent's celebrated Cremona Ladies' Orchestras; three to forty performers; smart uniform. 8, Grafton-square, Clapham, S.W. 'Phone, 990 Battersea.

WANTED, Known, Mme. Winternitz, Ladies' Orchestras, Trios, Quartettes, or Individual Musicians Supplied at shortest notice; immense library, brilliant music. 31, Alexandra-road, Birmingham.

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WANTED, Wanted, at once,
Riders of any description,
both Male and Female,
with Own Horses;
or Family preferred;
for Tenting Season;
open March 19.
Also Wanted, a Leader,
with six or seven performers in band.
Apply, James Manders,
Old Welsh Harp, Hendon, Middlesex.

WANTED, for Easter week, First-class Artistes of every description; also good Flying Trapeze Act. Address,
Sir Robert Fossett,
Farm, Tiffield, Towcester.

WANTED, a good Aerial Show, or Slack Rope Walker, to open at Devonport about April 3, 1913, for three weeks. Apply, W. C. and S. Hancock, Amusement Caterers, Richmond Walk, Devonport.

WANTED, Circus Artistes, Musicians, Bill Posters, Window Billers, Grooms. State lowest terms (Smythe Family write), Fred Browne, 39, Earl-street, Belfast.

WANTED, Circus Artistes who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Rollo, World's Highest Slack Rope Artiste, liberty for Fêtes and Galas. An Act that never fails. Evans's Carnival, Tollcross, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Known, Jene Steckel, Continental Rider (own horse); Four Kels, Pot-pourri Speciality; vac., summer. Thanks for offers. Must have price. 19, Kaye-street, Bradford.

WANTED, Neddy Vokes, English and Continental Musical and Talking Clown; vacant, home or abroad. Address, 16, Moreton-st., Strangeways, Manchester.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED

GLASGOW PANOPTICON AND IBROX PALACE.
WANTED, for the above hall, strong and attractive Specialities, Good Comediennes, Sisters, Comedians, &c. Full particulars first letter, list of bookings, lithos, if any, to
A. E. Pickard, Panopticon, Glasgow.

PALACE, DURHAM. On the Main Line.
WANTED, Artistes, Specialities, and Novelties, for immediate and future dates. T. C. Rawes, Proprietor.

WANTED, Big Tops, shares or salary, Artistes all lines, Feb. 24, onwards. Can offer 10 weeks, journeys short. Kennedy Circuit, Empire, Smethwick.

PALACE, SUNDERLAND.
WANTED, for March 10, Big Sensational Attractions, Mystic Novelties, Spectacular Scenic Productions, Daring and Sensational Aerial Acts, Big Musical Shows, Pantomimical and Musical Comedy Sketches, and anything New, Novel, and Original. Also Acts of every description for the following dates:—March 17, 24, and 31, April 21, May 5, 19, onward. Address, with lowest terms, to Manager.

NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER.
WANTED, Big Star Attractions, on salary, or to find complete programme on share.
Arthur Carlton, New Theatre, Worcester.

FRANK COYLE'S AGENCY.
WANTED, for Fêtes and Galas, Whit Monday, onwards, Big Specialities, Acrobats, Gymnasts, Artistes doing Two Acts; also Variety Artistes all lines, Feb. 24, March 3, 10. Nothing too big or small if good.
1, Cross Flatts-drive, Beeston, Leeds.
'Phone, 4195.
Telegrams, "Alarm, Beeston, Yorks."

SMYTHSON'S AGENCY.
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WANTED, Big Top - Liners.
Terms, full list and lithos if possible.
Also First-class Theatres and Halls.
For front-rank, powerful combinations.
State holding capacity and record first letter.

WANTED, Gala Acts of Every Description. Full pars, lithos, bills, p.a., &c.
Will Mme. Neuro and Tudora's Ponies write?
Bruce Howard, 14, Lupton-st., Bradford.

SURREY THEATRE, BLACKFRIARS-ROAD.
WANTED, for the Surrey Theatre, London, S.E., Acts new to London; willing to give private audition with view to booking. Write in immediately.

PALACE, SUNDERLAND.
WANTED, for Monday next, Big Sensational Acts, First-class Comedy Troupes, or anything capable of topping bill. Wire lowest terms, Manager, Palace, Sunderland.

WANTED, absolutely refined Variety Turns for future dates. Apply, John Darlison, General-Manager, New Theatre, Dumfries.
See "Companies Wanted" column.

EMPIRE PALACE, BARNSLEY.
WANTED, good Star Attractions (top and bottom of bill) for March 10, 24, and later dates. Apply, Will Smithson, Managing Director.

WANTED, for Great Variety Competition, £1 Prize, Turns, Foresters, Thursday afternoon; Bow and Sadler's Wells, Friday night. State hall you wish to appear to Competition Manager, Sadler's Wells Theatre, Islington. Send stamp for reply.

DRURY AND ALDRIDGE, Variety Agents.
WANTED, Big Tops and Bottoms, immediate and future dates. Bookings, terms, and lithos, if any. Also Wanted, Smaller Acts, suitable for Picture Halls. Write, 55, Cowcaddens-st. (near Pavilion), Glasgow. 'Phone: Douglas 375.

WANTED, immediately, Smart Young Lady Acrobatic Dancer, for Speciality Act; good salary. Apply, Box 4,292, "The Era."

WANTED, at once, Young Man; All-round Tumbler and Knockabout, for Comedy Acrobatic Act. Apply, Box 4,293, "The Era."

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
BIG SPECIALITY ACTS,
BIG COMEDY ACTS,
BIG ANIMAL ACTS,
for
Blackpool, Morecambe, Douglas,
Southport, and
artistes in all lines for other towns.
Send dates, terms, &c., to
Will Sley,
180, Oxford-road, Manchester.

The Premier Variety Theatre of Ireland,
TIVOLI THEATRE,
DUBLIN.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
STAR COMEDIANS,
STAR COMEDIENNES,
STAR SPECIALITIES,
and Anything that is New, Novel,
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Dates, terms, &c., to
Will Sley, 180, Oxford-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Smart Girls, Clever Step Dancers. Call, any day, three o'clock, 22, Maiden-lane, Strand, W.C.; or write and send Photo, Mr. and Mrs. Gordon.

WANTED, Lady Juggler; preference those who do Ball Bouncing; age, height, terms, photo, first letter, tricks you do. Box 4,366, "The Era."

PALACE THEATRE, READING, and NEW THEATRE, NORTHAMPTON.
WANTED, Known, all Communications should be addressed to W. T. Simmons, Managing-Director, Palace Theatre, Reading.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS

UNAPPROACHABLE FAY FABER
UNAPPROACHABLE FAY FABER
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UNAPPROACHABLE FAY FABER
Is the verdict of the Entire Press.
Roguish and Winning, without Vulgarity.
Last Deputised, Top of the Bill, Port Glasgow.
This, Cleveland Troupe, P., Shettleston.
Next, Hippodrome, Hamilton.

WANTED, Known, few Vacant dates, 1913. Fast filling 1914.
Booked Pavilion, Glasgow, and Regent, Salford, into 1914.
Coms.,
Mr. McFarland,
Renfrew-chambers,
136, Renfield-st., Glasgow.
Wires, "Correct, Glasgow."

"WRONG 'UNS!"
Twenty minutes uproarious laughter and applause. Staged, dressed, and played on West-End lines. Booked and re-booked at every Provincial Hall of note. Five people. Complete production travelled.
WANTED, Easter week, March 31, and May 26. Only Spring vacancies. James Hare, County Theatre, Bangor, direct; or Harry Burns; or Ernest Dottridge.

ALFRED WELLESLEY
in
"UNCLE'S COURTSHIP."
WANTED, March 3, 10, 17, between Chatham and Emp., Sheffield.
Booked into 1915, on all the big circuits in this country.
Three Artistes. Runs 18 minutes.
86, Abinger-road, Bedford Park, London, W.

WANTED, by Daisy Morten, Charming Comedienne and Buck Dancer, &c. Dis. Feb. 17. Wire or write, 12, Priory-street, Colchester.

WANTED, Monday next, by Miss Nan Terry, the sparkling Comedienne. Wire, Princess Hall, Castleton, Rochdale; Feb. 24, Palace, Lincoln.

WANTED, Monday next, and Feb. 24, by Will Harvie, that Black, Eccentric, Musical Comedian and Comedy Conjurer. Wire, house address, 27, Ridling-lane, Hyde.

WANTED, Monday next, also Feb. 24, Fred Zarinella, in Comedy Juggling and Acrobatic Eccentricities. Conc. Panto., Marlborough T., London. This week, Empire, Canterbury.

WANTED, Wanted, Feb. 17, by Tom Merry, Comedian.
Wire, Empress, Brixton.

WANTED, Feb. 24, March 1, for Solo's New Sketch, "Cousin Dick's Double," Three Artistes. Fifteen minutes' comedy. Particulars, F. S., 63, Melrose-road, Southfields, London.

WANTED, Known, Ted Young, Versatile Comedian, vacant, Monday next, and Feb. 24. Wire, Grand Theatre, Accrington.

WANTED, by Vanko, Juggler, from Feb. 24, on; absolutely the Best Juggling Act, at present working Pictures. Electric Theatre, Hemel Hempstead.

WANTED, Monday next, Feb. 17, also 24, and later dates, Khrel and Khrel (late the Dunvilles), in their new Comedy, Instrumental, Vocal, Dance, and Conversational Star Speciality, the Dame and Dainty Damsel. Address, this week, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, Known, Doyle and Massey, Comedians, vacant March 10 and 17 (to precede Carlin How, Yorks). This, Empire, York. Next, Hip., Darlington.

WANTED, Known, Two Little Star Dandies, Singers and Dancers; Lancashire Comedy and Vaudeville Act; vacant, March 24, 31. All coms., per add., 63, Market-street, Preston.

WANTED, Feb. 24, March 17 (North), WEDBURNS.
Always Successful Comedians.
Big Success this week at Falkirk.
"Herald" says:—The entertainment submitted by the Wedburns is one of great merit, vocal and comedy items being blended nicely together. These artistes thoroughly earn the generous share of applause which they receive for their splendid work.
Feb. 17, Pavilion, Kirkcaldy.

WANTED, Feb. 17 and 24, by The Tissots, Originators of Living Marionettes and Famous Cat Duet. Wire, Opera House, Kidderminster.

WANTED, Fetes and Galas, Season, 1913, by the Three Hodgnis, Continental Stage Aerial Gymnastic Wonders; also Mlle Deton et Cie., Juggling Balancing Act, on Aerial Slack Wire; splendid apparatus; attractive printing; full co. if required. M. Hodgini, Manager, 17, Lime-grove, Henshaw-road, Small Heath, Birmingham.

WANTED, Feb. 24 (to follow Millom (Cum.), by ATLAS-VULCANA TROUPE,
Greatest Top of Bill Speciality Extant.
One, two, or Three Turns. Top, Bottom, Middle.
Till Sunday, wire,
Atlas, The Hollies, Fulham.
Monday, Recreation Theatre, Millom (Cum.).

WANTED, Known, The Kyasyas, Jack and Casa, Comedy Conversationalists and Jesters, Dental and Hirsute Demonstrators, conclude America; big time; London Pavilion, Oxford, &c. Vac., Feb. 17, 24; break South. Wire, c/o 18, Sunderland-st., Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Known, Garden Quintette, Scotch Vocalists, Pipers, and International Dancers, vac. Feb. 17, 24; Wales preferred; two acts if wanted. Wire, T.R., Cardiff, or 54, Plantaganet-st.

WANTED, March 17, other dates, for one great dashing Act.
Chard's Dogs,
Workman's Hall, Dowlais, Wales.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS

STUART CLEVELAND and CO.
STUART CLEVELAND and CO.
WANTED, April 21, May 19, 26; for that successful heart-to-heart Sketch,
"A POLICEMAN AND A MAN."
"A POLICEMAN AND A MAN."
"A POLICEMAN AND A MAN."
By Stuart Cleveland.
Enthusiastic reception.
Enthusiastic reception.
Laughs, tears, and cheers
Laughs, tears, and cheers
on Return Visit to Barnard's, Chatham.
on Return Visit to Barnard's, Chatham.
Also on my Return
this week to
The Hippodrome, Southampton.
The Best Domestic Sketch
The Best Domestic Sketch
on the Boards, Bar None.
on the Boards, Bar None.
STUART CLEVELAND
STUART CLEVELAND
is always supported
is always supported
by a First-class Company.
by a First-class Company.

Apply to the Principal Agents; or
Stuart Cleveland,
The Palace, Blackpool.

WANTED, Feb. 17, Captain Grahame and Baboons, &c.; a drawing card. For character, The Manager, Electric T., Kidderminster. What a house!

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OPEN-AIR ENTERTAINMENTS.
WANTED, offers for the Privilege of giving Entertainments during the coming season from a site on the Sea Front, Minehead. Offerers prepared to provide specially high-class form of Entertainments will receive special consideration. Particulars and conditions of the Licence may be obtained upon application to me. Sealed tenders, endorsed "Entertainments," stating amount offered and nature of Entertainment, must be sent to my office not later than Thursday, Feb. 20, 1913. The Council do not bind themselves to accept any offer. By order, L. C. Webber-Incledon, Clerk to the Council, 3, Bancks-street, Minehead, Somerset, Jan. 27, 1913.

Pierrot Pitch,
at Craigvara Pleasure Grounds,
Portrush.
WANTED, to Let, for Summer Season, 1913.
Proposals
will be received up to
March 1 by
Clerk of Council,
Portrush,
from whom further particulars can be obtained.

OPEN AIR CONCERTS.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
to Let, for Season,
Brick and Timber Built and Tiled Stage,
with Two Dressing Rooms,
and a Large Well-enclosed Space in Front
Situate near Caversham Bridge,
at the entrance to the Thames Side Promenade
at Reading.
Rent, £40 for the Season.
Apply, Haslam and Son,
Friar-street-chambers,
Reading.

SPA PAVILION, FELIXSTOWE.
WANTED, for Easter Week, a First-class Concert Party; must be Tip-top, Well-known Company. Terms, certainty or shares. Good terms paid to No. 1 Show.
Full particulars to S. Churcher
Musical-Director and Manager.

THE MARINA THEATRE, RAMSGATE.
WANTED, Good Concert Parties, immediate dates, share or rental.
Apply, F. C. Dew.

CLEVEDON, SOMERSET.
WANTED, Good Concert Party for Season. Six Artistes.
Contract and particulars,
Apply, Secretary,
Band Committee.

WANTED, Refined Baritone; good appearance; dress well; used to concert party work or musical comedy.
Also Good Pianist; used to concert party; must be smart.
Apply, Box, 4,338, "The Era."

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WANTED, Monogram Worker, smart, at once; syndicate exhibition, good tour and terms. Write or wire, J. Thompson, Exhibition, Middlesbrough.

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WANTED, for International Exhibition, 1913, in London. Millions will attend. Apply at once. G. S. Valentine, architect, 18, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

THE PIER AND GRAND PAVILION,
COLWYN BAY.
WANTED, Attractions and Novelties for the pier (outside); one or two good Shops to Let, suitable for fun factory or any money-making devices. Apply, W. Yates Gregory, General-Manager.

WANTED, for Maxim's Novelty Exhibition, High-street, Ayr, Scotland, Marionettes, Illusions, Freaks; Spaces to Let; Monos; Wire; Tattooing; Sketch Artist.

WANTED, to Sell, Photos, Husbands, Wives, Babies, Love Letters, Fortunes, Eyes, Astrology, Comic Cards, X-Rays.
Maurice, 39, Argyle-square, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, New and Second-hand; Card Delivery. Mother Shipton's; marvellous money-takers. New Catalogue. Maurice, Argyle-square, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines; the latest Novelties and best money-takers. Wormald, 123, Blythe-road, West Kensington, London, W. Established 1887.

WANTED, to Sell, ½d. and 1d. Slot Automatic Machines, all kinds, bargain lists free. Husband, Wife, Baby, Eye, Hair, Fortunes, Astrology Cards, 5s. 1,000. Love Letters, 9s. Leslie, 5, Denning-road, Hampstead Heath, N.W.

WANTED, Wanted, to Sell, large Variety Latest and Exclusive Designs. Slot Machines, new and second-hand.
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WANTED, to Sell, Penny Slot Machines, all kinds; bargain prices; also Working Models, Witches' Caves, &c. British Co., 457, High-road, Tottenham.

GRAVITY RAILWAYS.
WANTED, Known, for Sale or Licence, Patent No. 28,704 of 1907. Improvements in or relating to gravity railways for recreation purposes. Particulars address, Box 195, T. B. Browne's Advertising Offices, 163, Queen Victoria-street, London.

WANTED, to Let on Hire, large Distorting Mirrors; Exhibitions, &c.
Address, Milton, 77, Virginia-street, Southport.

WANTED, Known, about 40ft. standing to Let; New Carrington-street, Nottingham; suit auctioneers, showmen, salesmen; could fix joy wheel, joints; all tenants must have one lamp to each 3ft. frontage. Marriott (Cooley Estates), James-street, Nottingham.

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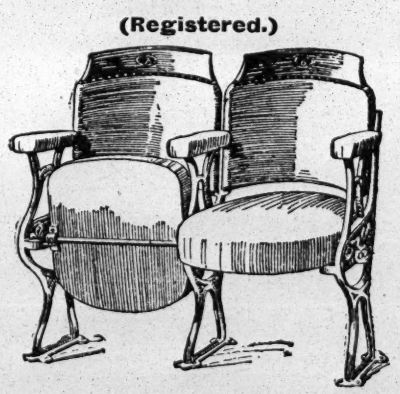

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TEMPLES, THREE ROYAL. This, Empire, York. Next, Hippo., Darlington. Coms., Harry Leaton.

TERRY, SISTERS (Bella and Minnie). Big hit, Chas. Elderton's Panto., "Aladdin." Feb. 17, Theatre Royal, Seaham Harbour.

TUDORA'S (EDITH) PONIES. Five Lady Artistes. Genuine. Monday, Bishop Auckland. Stroll Tour to follow.

TYMES, THE (Cecil and Vera). The Song Scena, "The Enchanted Clock." De Lacy and Tymes' Panto. V. T. thanks Co. and friends for lovely birthday presents. Feb. 17, G.T., Houghton.

VALDO BROS., THE, in their Acrobatic Absurdity, "The Eccentric Motor Bus-Men." Per. add., 48, Rudloe-rd., Balham, London.

WELDA and WYNNE (Bert and Dorothy). This, Hippo., Tonypandy; next, Palace, Ebbw Vale. Vacant, Feb. 24 and March 3.

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WILSON, J. A., and Private Towser. Feb. 17, Empire Theatre, Preston. At liberty March 17 and 24, between Northwich and Ramsgate. Wire or write above; or Shaw's Agency, 18, Adam-st., Strand, London.

YAMAMOTO and MISS KOYOSHI TROUPE. Celebrated Japanese Equilibrists and Entertainers. Perm., 30, Rue d'Orsel, Paris. The London Pavilion. Vacant March 17, 31, May 5, on. Share or certainty if required with Own Company.

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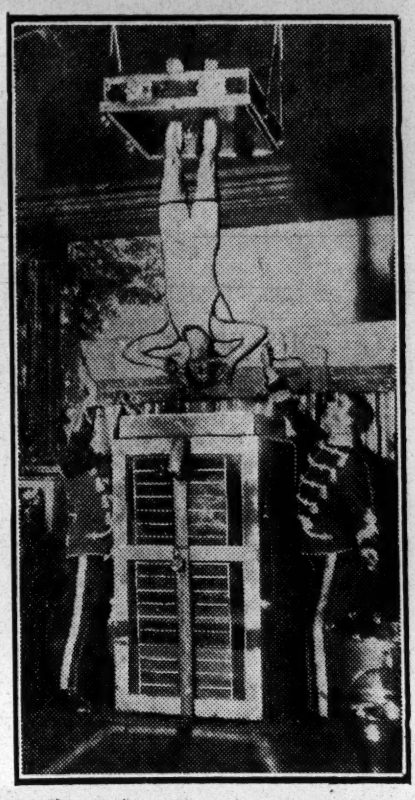

which is the greatest I have ever attempted i strenuous career, and by give notice that I protected this new thea effect by

SPECIAL LICENCE FR THE LORD CHAMBER

as a Stage Play, and I certainly stop anyone fringing on my rights.

The above situation sists of the performer b locked into a narrow Vte Torture Cell filled it water, whilst standi head, ankles clamped, a locked above in centre massive cover, and escap therefrom in this Up-si Down position.

I have also protected the above in United State America, likewise in Germany. In fact, the Courts of G many have fined two Copyists 150 Marks for making use a Lithograph depicting the Water Torture Cell, whilst th had granted a Temporary Injunction against the imitato

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THE WORLD'S GREATEST CHILD DANSEUSE.

Tremendous success as FAIRY QUEEN, Panto., "TWINKLE LITTLE STAR,"

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[Photo by Jas Bacon & Sons.

Vide Press, "Birmingham Weekly Post," Feb. 8 1913 :—

"Little Betty Renée charmed the audience with her wonderful dancing. She reproduced with remarkable ability two of Madame Pavlova's acts, the Pas-Seul and the Passing of the Swan. This little girl, who is only twelve years of age, will doubtless take a prominent place in the dancing world of the future."

Do not fail to see this Wonder Child.

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"At the risk of being considered ungallan must express the opinion that the average ventriloquist is not very convincing, the differ in the voices being so slight. The best I have heard to overcome this defect is Miss Josep Langley, who has been appearing at the Leeds Varieties this week. Her 'boy s' voice is full deep as the youth of fifteen whose voice is break and her other voices are quite distinct in pitch intonation. It is altogether a clever performa She learned the art by mimicking her brother, was a successful ventriloquist, now retired fr the stage, and has been at it since twelve years age, though she has only been two years on t halls."—"Yorkshire Post," Dec. 31, 1912.

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CALLS FOR MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1913.

THE LONDON HIPPODROME.

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—

"Hullo, Rag-time!" Stein-Eretto Troupe, Barat, Woodward & Page, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, FINSBURY PARK.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Miss Artie Hall, Tom Edwards, Lane & Dale, ne Astis, Two Bobs, Zona Vevey, Harry Vebber, G. W. Hunter, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Phil Percival, Millie Payne, Kitty Colyer, Lane & O'Donnell, Bioscope, Jack Shires, Chris Baker, A. D. Robbins, Rag-time Revue.

BROADWAY T., NEW CROSS.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

"The Gay Lord Quex."

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, STOKE NEWINGTON.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Louis J. Seymour, Little Ena Dayne, Olive Dean, Pictures.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Jack Marks, Delevines, Millie Doris, Archie Naish, Julian Mack, Spiegler and his Quintette, Bella & Bijou, Daunton Shaw Troupe, Tilly French, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, SWANSEA.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Burt Shepard, Kitty Wager, Fred Poplar, George Lashwood, Sisters Royce & Sid, Donaldson Bros., Bioscope, Nora Emerald, Walter Bellonini.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Lulu Williams, Vasco, S. W. Wyndham, "Loss of the Titanic," Alexandre & Bertie, O'Hanlon & Rivkin, Jack Warman, Bioscope.

PANOPTICON, CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 3 p.m. for:—

Company as Booked.

OLYMPIA, CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Company as Booked.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Kitty Prince, Bioscope, Marie Santoi, Edna Morgan, Arthur Lennard, Four Arconis, G. H. Chirgwin, Dave Bryant, Bi-Ber-Ti, Marie Courtenay.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Hunt & Thomas, Quigley Bros., Bioscope, Doris Duquesne, Albert Chevalier, Laurette & Laurelle, Van Der Koors, Fred Russell, Happy Jack Gardiner.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Alf Tack, W. F. Frame, "The Heart of a Child," The Craggs, Real McKays, Chas. Austin & Co., Louis Alvarez, Bioscope.

GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for; —

"Merrie England."

GRAND, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Vittorio & Georgetto, Joe Maddern & Co., Rinaldo, Juggling Nelsons, Anna Eva Fay, Adam Tomlinson, Fred Wildon, Bioscope.

NEW PALACE, SUMMERHILL, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Jack Francis, Stanley Waring, Costello Bros., Pictures.

Artistes in the Midlands wishing to submit trials for their acts should apply to the manager of this theatre.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Phil & Nettie Peters, Bioscope, Ray & Zack, Tom E. Dean, Mike S. Whallen, Andrew McManus, Ad. Salge's Animated Sculptures, Five X-Rays, Jack Lane.

Notice to Artistes.

The management invite artistes engaged in Birmingham to take advantage of the handsome and high-class lounge which has recently opened adjoining the Empire Theatre, and under the same management. All facilities are provided for correspondence, &c.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Dion Wade, Milandro Quartette, Bioscope, "Visions of Venus," Hart & Johnson, May Moore Duprez, Amos Howard, Reynolds & Donegan, Sisters Lyndon.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Will Hay, Romanos, Chas. F. Hill, Ivan Kotchinsky, Wilkie Bard, Dezcskordy, Bioscope, Mabel Costello, Cowboy Jupiters.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Peter & Potts, Ethel Eden, The Rawsons, Woodward's Seals, "Arms and the Girl," George Rae, Thora, Roland Bros.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Great Weiland, Wullie Walker, Friend & Downing, Harry Fields, Six Bros. Luck, Bioscope, Gwennie Llewellyn, Edie King, Grey & Grey.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Miller Bros., Rich Taylor, L'Incognita, Ike & Will Scott, Bioscope, Master Garnett, Gene Greene, George Mozart, Herbert Rule.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Paulhan Team, The Keppels, Tom Costello, Whit Cunliffe, Harlequinaders, Alice Wyatt, Howard & Harris, Bioscope, Bros. Curran.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

Resident-Director: Mr. Richard Thornton.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Wilfred Burnand, Wild Willie & West, Cooper & Lait, Eugene Stratton, Bioscope, Bob & Jennie Leonard, Harry Blake, Ethel Loftus, Melody Makers, Dora Lyric.

EMPIRE THEATRE, EDINBURGH.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Francis & Alfred, George Newburn, Jack Smiles, Princess D'Aryaba, Lowenwirth & Cohan, Tom Foy, Three Cape Girls, Talbot & Pearce, Bioscope, Jock McKay,

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Phil Parsons, Mlle. Golda, Edwin Lawrence, Victoria Monks, Yorke & Adams, Caselli Sisters, Leipzig, Wille Bros., Bioscope, Nelson Jackson.

The following are booked in conjunction with the above:

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND.

Managing-Director: Mr. Richard Thornton.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Tom Parker, Lieut. Insen's Band, Boston Boys & Girls, The Two St. Johns, Hanlon Bros., Capt. Taylor's Baboons, Chas. Aldridge, Gus Garrick,

Artistes are requested to send all Bill Matter for this Hall Direct to Empire Theatre, Sunderland.

EMPIRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.

Managing-Director: Mr. Richard Thornton.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

"The Chocolate Soldier."

Artistes are requested to send all Bill Matter for this Hall Direct to Empire Theatre, Sunderland.

EMPIRE PALACE, S. SHIELDS.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Harry Bedford, Park's Eton Boys, Austen Temple, Robb, Ivy, & Lynn, Jackson's Cyclists, Speedwell, Dave Poole, Nelly Bly.

Artistes are requested to send all Bill Matter for this Hall Direct to Empire Theatre, Sunderland.

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.

Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—

Gertie Gitana, Sammy Shields, Bioscope, Edma Deno, Olitzka Maddison, Sisters Beaumont, Sheverosky Bros.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Chas. Stevens, Bioscope, David & Marriott, Cora Corina, Hemming & Free, Alberta Flahey & Tenor, Hilda Mascot.

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Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

"The Old Folks at Home."

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IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ARTISTES AND AGENTS.—When an artiste or act, having previously played on the Moss' Empire Tour, is re-engaged for further dates, the Contracts will be sent to the agent who negotiated the last engagement—unless notice has been received from the artiste that this is not desired. It is therefore important that, should artistes change their agents, notification in writing be immediately sent to Moss' Empires, Ltd., stating through whom they desire their business transacted.

PLEASE NOTE.—NO DEPUTIES WILL BE ACCEPTED AT REHEARSALS. ANY ARTISTES ABSENTING THEMSELVES WILL BE LIABLE TO HAVE THEIR CONTRACTS CANCELLED.

SPECIAL PROVISION HAS BEEN MADE AT EACH THEATRE FOR THE EXHIBITION OF LOOSE PHOTOGRAPHS. ARTISTES ARE REQUESTED TO SUPPLY THESE TO THE MANAGER ON REACHING THE THEATRE, AND THEY WILL BE RETURNED IN GOOD CONDITION AT THE END OF THE WEEK

RE APPLICATIONS FOR ENGAGEMENTS.—All applications by either Artistes or their Agents must be made to the Head Office. Lowest terms must be stated, and distinction made between salaries required for larger and smaller towns. Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier. **SILENCE, A POLITE NEGATIVE.** To avoid confusion Artistes employing Agents should accredit one only at one time to do their business.

BOOKING DEPARTMENT.—This department is now under the supervision of MR. ERNEST WIGHTON.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTH SHIELDS.—Artistes and Agents wishing to submit TRIALS for their Acts in the North should apply to the Manager, as Matinees are held every Wednesday for that purpose.

N.B.—MR. FRANK ALLEN or MR. ERNEST WIGHTON can be seen by appointment on all matters arising out of the above, and for the discussion of entirely new Numbers.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTES.—Artistes must have at least Fourteen Band Parts for English Orchestrations, and Seventeen Band Parts for Foreign Orchestrations. Matter of Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to HEAD OFFICES, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, failing which Artistes will run the risk of having their engagements cancelled. IMPORTANT.—Artistes must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to Opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artistes are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced. Artistes' Scenery, Properties, &c., MUST be fireproofed in accordance with the regulations of the Licensing Authorities. ARTISTES WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

IMPORTANT.—All sketches produced at the above theatres must be licensed by the Lord Chamberlain. A complete copy of the script of every sketch as licensed, with a copy of the Lord Chamberlain's licence, must be sent to the Head Office twenty-one days at least before the performance of the sketch at any of the above Theatres.

No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the foregoing theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form, issued from the London Offices, and signed by either Mr. Frank Allen or the Chief Accountant, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases, where goods are required at once, suppliers must look to the individual placing the order, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within forty-eight hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the London Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss of or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

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Calls for Monday, Feb. 17, 1913.

LONDON PAVILION.
Rehearsal at 12.
Neil Kenyon, Henri de Vries & Co., George Formby, Yamamoto and Koyoshi, Dutch Daly, Beth Tate, Frank Maura, Signor Torti, Louie Tracey, Fred Hastings, Evelyn Tyser, Camp and Critic, Frank and Vesta.

TIVOLI.
Rehearsal at 12.
Bertram Wallis' "Musketeers," including Bertram Wallis, Herbert Clayton, Frederic Norton, and Nelson Keys; Bransby Williams, Hedges Bros. and Jacobsen, R. McDonald's Co. in "The Lodgers," Kinsey Peile and Lottie Venne in "Biff," Zoret, Clifford Morgan, Three Gascoignes, George Ross, Harold Montague, Les Andres.

OXFORD.
Rehearsal at 12.
Ernest Rolls' Co. in "Ragmania," Four Kasracs, W. H. Kuming, Jessie Berg, Keeley Bros., Gilbert Girard, Veronica Brady, Three Prestons, George Ross, May Henderson, Giovanni Colombo, Achmid Ibrahim Troupe, Duncan and Godfrey, Harry Moore, Devon and Earle, Leslie Styles.

METROPOLITAN.
Rehearsal at 12.45.
Bertram Wallis' "Musketeers," including Bertram Wallis, Herbert Clayton, Frederic Norton, and Nelson Keys; Harvey Boys, Syd Walker, Ethel Stephenson, Naughton and Gold, Doris Hunter, Nino and Nana, Deane Tribune, Leivin and Pantzer, F. V. St. Clair, Tom Moore, Laurie Wylie's "Early Morning Reflections," Bioscope.

SOUTH LONDON.
Rehearsal at 12.
Peterman's "Seaside Revue," Hedges Bros. and Jacobsen, Giovanni Colombo, Sandos and Assistant, Shirley and Ransome, James Fawn, Lily Long, Pyck, Tholl and Taylor, Tom Dempsey, Bioscope.

CHELSEA.
Rehearsal at 12.
J. and H. B. Jewell, Marie Kendall, assisted by Steve McCarthy, Jan Rudenyi & Co., Tom Moore, Harold Montague, Veronica Brady, Carrie Laurie's Juveniles, Doris Hunter, Harry Wenburn, Ernie Leno, Laurie Wylie's "Mannikins" and "Early Morning Reflections," Bioscope.

EUSTON.
Rehearsal at 12.
Joe Peterman's "Station Master," Alfred Woods & Co., Pyck, Tholl and Taylor, Zoret, Albert Letine, Barbara Babbington, Jenny Castelle, Naughton and Gold, Shirley and Ransome, Ted Gill, Bioscope.

EAST HAM.
Rehearsal at 12.
"The Mysterious Lady in Red," Ten Loonies, Three Gascoignes, Mabel and Cliff Diamond, Elsie Kerry, Fred Wilkinson, Harry Clifford, Irene Millar, Frances Letty, Louie Tracey, Bioscope.

WALTHAMSTOW.
Rehearsal at 1.
Seven Perezoffs, Buck Baker & Co., Harry Champion, Jock Whiteford, Rosie Rendell, Alice Gill, Bert Lytton, Keeley Bros., Flora Cromer, Bioscope.

TOTTENHAM.
Rehearsal at 2.
George Formby, Harry Champion, Beth Tate, Ella [illegible]rskine & Co., Five Jovers, Fred Douglas, St. Hellia and Dorothy, Frank Sylvo, Three Prestons, Bioscope.

EMPRESS, BRIXTON.
Rehearsal at 12.
Geo. Gray & Co., Bartic Trio, May Henderson, Clifford Morgan, Irene Millar, Idento Bros., Bobby Dillon, Sinclair and Whiteford, Mlle. Yetta, Bioscope.

WATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1.
Eric Mayn[illegible] Co., Three Van Dammes, G. H. Barr, Ethel Hal[illegible]ncan and Godfrey, Holman Sisters, George [illegible]rowther, Nora Dwyer, Bioscope.

These Calls are communicated by the Managements for the information of Artistes "without prejudice."

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(Seven Artistes.)
Vacant—
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Chairman and Treasurer,
MR. HARRY BARNARD.

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J. SPARROW, Secretary.

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Secretary and Chief Accountant, W. S. GORDON MICHIE.
ARTISTES' DEPARTMENT: Negotiations—A. D. DAVIS; Dates—LLEWELLYN JOHNS.
Address all communications to the Managing Director.

CALLS FOR FEBRUARY 17, 1913.

THE LONDON COLISEUM.
Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—
Irene Vanbrugh & Co. in "Rosalind," M. Theodore Kosloff in "Scheherazade," Henry Helme, The Vernons, Smite and Smote, Kinemacolor, Johnson and Bert, Kara, Vera Wootton, Bioscope, Finney Sisters, Cliff Berzac.
Please note the Continental Pitch has been adopted by the Coliseum Orchestra.

THE NEW MIDDLESEX.
Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for:—
"Trilby," Fifi Ronay, C. J. Johnson, Selection, Bioscope, Ando's Japs.

THE HACKNEY EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
American Ragtime Octette, Piquo, Carlisle and Wellmon, Cooke and Three Rotherts, May Latinia, Bioscope, T. E. Dunville, Mabel Sinclair, Marie Kay, Chanti.
Artistes should send photos for display in front of the house to Manager, to be returned at end of week.

SHEPHERD'S BUSH EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—
Schwarz Brothers, Eight Elliott Savonas, Harry Grey, Olive Armadale, Green and Wood, Lynn and Leslie, Daisy Taylor, Bioscope, Gertie Hall, Bessie Knight.

THE CHISWICK EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—
C. Aubrey Smith and Lilian Braithwaite in "Instinct," Marcus and Gartelle, Gintaro, Harry Gribben & Co. in "Come Aboard, Sir," Bioscope, Doroswami, Coram, Alex Piccad Troupe.

WOOD GREEN EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—
Marie Studholme & Co. in "Her Ladyship." Fregolia, Ferry Corwey, Woolmer Young, Myfanwy Newell, Happy Attwood, Bioscope, The Grotesques.

CHATHAM EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
The Three Collegians, Christine Roy, Bugler Carr, Briff, Braff and Broff, Bioscope, Johnson Clark, Solo, Lorna and Toots Pounds.
Artistes should send photos for display in front of the house to Manager, to be returned at end of week.

MANCHESTER HIPPODROME.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Violet Vanbrugh in "Macbeth," Brothers Werds, Maningos, Rembrandt, Elton & Edwin, Bioscope, Chass Lewis, Beatie and Babs, The Joculars.

THE ARDWICK EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—
Lalla Selbini, Campbell and Barber, Alice Craven, "Marked Money," Tom Jones, Bioscope, Randolph Sutton, Upmann.

THE LEICESTER PALACE.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Jen Latona, La Pia, Henry and Liezel, Eight Frolics, Fred Durant and Brother in "Everything," Fred Keeton, Vandinoff, Bioscope, Miles Stavordale Quintette.

LEICESTER FLORAL HALL.
Pictures.

BRISTOL HIPPODROME.
Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for:—
Fanny Fields, Alfred Lester, Selbit's "Shadow People," Lea Manti, Hinton and Wooton, Lydia and Amelys, Tom Woottwell, Bioscope, Molly Wells.

NOTE.—All Sketches played at the above theatres must be licensed by the Lord Chamberlain, and a copy of the licence, together with script as licensed, must be sent to the Stoll Offices at least 21 days before date of performance.

Arrangements for additional Theatres include—

FULHAM EMPIRE.

The distance as the crow flies between the Finsbury Park Empire and the Wood Green Empire, measured on the Ordnance Survey Map, is 2 miles 60 yards.—Edward Stanford.

BAND PARTS REQUIRED.—14 different parts for English Orchestrations and 17 for Foreign Orchestrations. Bristol Hippodrome requires 20 parts, including 3 first violins and piano part for harp.

ADVERTISING MATTER.—Bills, Blocks, Photographs, and specimens of Pictorials really representing the Act, should be forwarded three weeks before opening. If return of photographs required, please say so.

STAGE DEPARTMENT.—Songs proposed to be sung should be submitted, and special stage requirements stated, in letters marked "Stage Department," by Artistes three weeks before opening.

COARSENESS, VULGARITY, &c., is not allowed. The Licensing Authorities forbid this and the majority of the public resent it. This intimation is only rendered necessary by a very few Artistes.

ARTISTES' SCENERY AND PROPERTIES must be fireproofed or they cannot be brought into the Theatre. This is by order of the Licensing Authorities.

BUSINESS NOTICE OF GENERAL APPLICATION.—No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the above Theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form, issued from the Offices, London, and signed by either Mr. Oswald Stoll or the Secretary, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases where goods are required at once suppliers must look to the individual placing the order, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within 48 hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the above Head Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

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Telegraphic Address: "Broadheads, Manchester."
National Telephone: 7359 & 7360 Manchester.

Artistes wishing to negotiate engagements, Agents and Managers of Touring Companies can be seen between the Hours of 10 and 1 (Mondays and Saturdays excepted).

CALLS FOR MONDAY, FEB. 17, 1913.

ASHTON—Empire Hippodrome.—H. A. Jordison's Pantomime, "Red Riding Hood." **2.** Matinée, Saturday, **2.30.**

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE—Empress Roller Rink. — Skating, Two Sessions Daily.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE — Pavilion Theatre.—Maisie and Mark, Pictures. **11.** Matinées, Monday, Tuesday, and Saturday, **2.30.**

BURY — Hippodrome. — Zella Vondi and Co., Pat Lynch, Pictures, Frank Melvin, Arthur Slater, Lydd and Lymitt. **2.**

ECCLES — Crown Theatre. — Tom Jersey, Elsie Claire, Pictures. **2.**

LIVERPOOL—Pavilion Theatre.—John Tiller's Pantomime, "Cinderella." **2.** Matinée, Saturday, **2.30.**

MANCHESTER — Hippodrome.—Victor Kelly, Correze and Keith, Les Croisets, The Fimans, Austin Rudd, Kitty Cameron, Aerial Budds. **2.**

MANCHESTER—Junction Theatre. Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's Co. in "The prairie Outlaw." **2.**

MANCHESTER—King's Theatre.—John Tiller's Pantomime, "The Forty Thieves." **2.** Matinée, Saturday, **2.30.**

MANCHESTER—Metropole Theatre.—Watson and Ussher's Co. in "The Man Tempted Me." **11.** Matinée, Monday, **2.30.**

MANCHESTER.—Osborne Theatre. — Lodge-Percy's Co. in "Under Two Flags." **2.**

MANCHESTER — Queen's Park Hippodrome.—John Tiller's Pantomime, "Sinbad the Sailor." **2.** Matinée, Saturday, **2.30.**

MORECAMBE—Winter Gardens.—Pictures, Dancing, &c. **11.**

PRESTON — Hippodrome. — H. O. Will's Pantomime, "The Forty Thieves." **11.** Matinées, Monday and Saturday, **2.30.**

PRESTON—New King's Palace.—Marie Loftus, Tim Carlisle, Ronald George, Junora and Partner, Glenroy Troupe, Darnell, Four Messenger Boys, Lawrence Brough and Co. in "Confusion," and Co. **1.**

SALFORD — Hippodrome. — Harold Raynor and Repertoire Co. **2.**

MISS MARIE LLOYD.
PALACE, PLYMOUTH.
Latest success, "My Actor Man."
By Clifford Harris and James Tate.
Agent, Ernest Edelsten.

MISS VESTA VICTORIA.
NOTICE TO ARTISTES AND MANAGERS.
I hereby caution all artistes and managers that I do not permit to be given any imitations of my songs, words, or business. Anyone performing or singing same will be prosecuted for infringing the copyrights I hold.
(Signed) VESTA VICTORIA.

The Little Ray of Sunshine.
ALEXANDRA DAGMAR.
In Town.
Business-Manager, G. Barclay.

EMMIE AMES.
"Emmie's Xmas tree," still going strong.
Terrific Success this week, Hippo., Darlington.
ON TOUR.
Perm. address, Hippo., Wisbech, Cam.

Booked Moss' Empires, Tivoli, Oxford, Pavilion, Syndicate, Gibbons, &c.
MISS LOUIE TRACY.
The Dapper Dandy Boy.
Feb. 10, London Pavilion and Chelsea (Sharing bottom of bill).
Feb. 17, LONDON PAVILION & EAST HAM.
Tom Claxton and Co.

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The World's Greatest Chorus Singer.
PANTOMIME.
Feb. 17, PRINCES T., BRADFORD.

WINSOME
DORMA MORGAN.
Refined Versatile Comedienne.
Coms., The Crambles, St. Anthony's-avenue, Eastbourne.
Pantomime 1913-14, title-rôle, Messrs. Milton Bode and J. F. Graham's "Jack Horner."

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The only Lady Dancing Act on the Wire.
Just returned, after a most successful tour of South Africa.
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The Incomparable Character Comedy Artiste.
MILLIE PAYNE.
Future bookings include: Moss, Stoll, and Macnaghten Tours, Syndicate, and L.T.V. Halls, and principal independent halls. All booked by Mr. H. Thurston. This, Hippo., Devonport. Feb. 17, EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.

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as JUNE, in "Autumn Manœuvres."
Feb. 17, MANCHESTER.
Coms., Blackmore's Agency.

MISS IRENE DILLON.
The Big-Little-Girl
will Twinkle in Vaudeville shortly, presenting some New Song ideas.
Coms., George Barclay.

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ROYAL, DUBLIN.
At liberty March 3.
Vaudeville or Musical Comedy.

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'Phone, Brixton 1812.
Will Collins, Business Manager.

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The Woman who is Never Herself.
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Simply
MARJORIE DEAN,
Colonial Lady Ventriloquist,
in her Original Scena.
"THE GIPSY SHOWGIRL."
My own property and legally protected.
Grand receptions at the
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and this week,
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Enormous Success, Top of Bill, at Hippo., Eastbourne. "Our Mary Jane."
Leaving for S. Africa March 1.
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(MAGGIE and JACK),
Entertainers.
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New Song-Scena, "The Half-Way House."
ON TOUR.
All communications
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An Artiste to her finger tips.
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as GOODY TWO SHOES.
GRAND THEATRE,
GLASGOW.

A "star" that never fails to shine.
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Playing to Packed Houses—Olympia, Liverpool.
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Sole Agents, Fred and Horace Reeves.

LITTLE BETTY RENEE.
The Wonderful Child Danseuse.
An ovation at every performance.
Panto., "Twinkle, Little Star,"
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A New Musical and Dancing Act.
A Great Novelty. A Great Novelty.
JAN PHYNLO,
Assisted by MLLE. EVELYN, Harpist, and MLLE. MABEL, Premiere Danseuse.
Produced for the first time at
ASTON HIPPODROME,
this week.
The verdict of the Press:—
One of the most acceptable musical and terpsichorean entertainments given for a long time at Aston was that supplied by Jan Phynlo, assisted by Mlle. Evelyn, whose harp solos were charmingly rendered, and Mlle. Mabel, a most graceful and accomplished little dancer. She put a wonderful power of expression into her work, which was of a most refined character."—"Birmingham Daily Post," Feb. 11, 1913.
Another item of more than ordinary merit was the musical and dancing speciality submitted by Jan Phynlo, assisted by Mlle. Evelyn on the harp and Mlle. Mabel in the dancing parts. It is a high-class, refined, and artistic show."—"Birmingham Daily Mail."
For vacant dates and terms write our Agent,
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Now topping the bill at the Empire, Camberwell.
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The greatest triumph that has ever been achieved (bar none).
Receiving an ovation that has never been equalled in Glasgow. And house packed at every performance. Monday next,
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MISS LILLIE LANGTRY
is the life and soul of the pantomime, and is to a large extent responsible for its great success. Aladdin was prime favourite.—Vide Press.

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Everybody's Favourite.
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Success! Success!! Success!!!
MAMIE FENTON
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Last week, Top of the Bill, Hippo., Lowestoft.
This week, IMPERIAL, CANNING TOWN, 7.15 and 9.40.
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ANNA EVA FAY.
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STOLL TOUR.
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Our Comedy Juggling Act stands alone.
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Famous
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Just completed a circle of the entire World with enormous success.
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Eccentric Comedian and Dancer.
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A comedian with new methods, and a unique personality.—The "People," Sept. 8, 1912.
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New Numbers When Wanted.
"I've got a soft place in mi 'ead,"
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Enormous Success.
"The only way—out" (a whiff of Yorkshire),
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Big Success in London.
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Booked by Will Oliver (Spot).
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A personal and professional reputation.
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Managers specially invited to see this Act. It's Original and Entertaining.
There is no breaking open safes in this Act.

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The Original Chocolate-Coloured Coon.
Feb. 17, COUNTY T., READING.
Enormous success of his two new songs, "Hullo! Susie Green," and "I've had my fortune told."
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Marvellous Blind Pianist, Lightning Composer and Virtuoso.
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HORACE WHEATLEY.
Continued success of "Old knee breeches,"
"D-o-u-g-h-e-r-t-y," "Mac, my old pal, Mac,"
"When I met you at the fair in Tipperary."
Please remember that I am the original singer of the above songs.
For dates, address, Tom Shaw's Agency, London; or Horace Wheatley, c/o "The Era."

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Napoleon of Mnemonics.
From the PALACE THEATRE,
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The Natural Animal Impersonator.
Enormous Success as the Cat, "Whittington" Panto., Prince's Theatre, Bristol.
Open for Pantomime 1913 and 1914.
The Natural Animal Impersonator.

Great Success, Hanley, Birkenhead, Tunbridge, Chatham, and Gibbons' Halls.
MR. F. V. ST. CLAIR,
in the Great Song, "Mister Lloyd."
Monday, Feb. 17, London Syndicate Halls,
THE METROPOLITAN.

"WHAT'S IN A NAME?"
"WHAT'S IN A NAME?"
"WHAT'S IN A NAME?"
Written by Wal Pink.
Music by J. S. Baker.
Another Screaming Success.
JOE ELVIN.
Feb. 17,
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Coms., Harry Masters.

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Business Manager, Ernest Edelsten.

LITTLE TICH.
THE PALLADIUM.

MR. WILL EVANS.
Xmas Season.
POMPONS, in "Sleeping Beauty."
THEATRE ROYAL, DRURY-LANE.
Business Manager, Mr. Harry Day (Day's Agency).

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T. E. DUNVILLE.
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Manager, Harry Masters, 1, Tottenham Court-road.

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New Scena,
"THE PUNCH AND JUDY MAN."
By Weston and Barnes.
Scene and Props. by Linton.
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"The Rag-time Curate,"
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The ever-welcome Pantomime Comedian and Dancer in all new business, songs, and gags.
The Success of the Year,
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Everybody is singing the chorus.
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The New Star,
in his songs,
"Fiddle-dee-dee,"
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THE CAT KING.
LEONI CLARKE'S
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One long laugh from start to finish.
Always something new.
Vacant, March 17, 24.
Share or certainty.
This week (return), Grand Theatre, Gillingham, Kent.
Next week (return), GRAND THEATRE, GRAVESEND.
Notice to Proprietors and Managers.—When making offers for sharing terms please state size of stage, seating capacity, and prices of admission.

LONDON: PUBLISHED FOR "THE ERA," LIMITED, BY E. G. KING, AT "THE ERA" BUILDINGS, 5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C., AND PRINTED BY LOVE AND MALCOMSON, LTD., Dane-street, High Holborn, London, W.C.
Saturday, February 15, 1913.